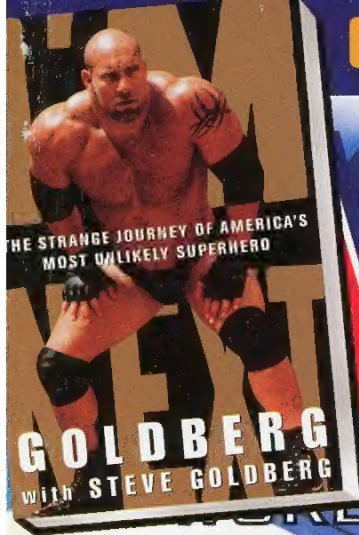


Goldberg's Book: Exclusive Excerpt



WCW
CHAMPIONS BUSTLING

Major Gunns

**DA
BOMBS**

Free Posters

Franchise & Torrie
Jindrak & O'Haire

Kevin Nash

Uncensored Q&A

**The Anatomy
of a Heel**

Issue No. 67 | wcw.com

USA \$4.99 CAN \$5.99 UK £2.75



ICE COLD

75

DIRTY-NAPCO

INSTRUCTIONS

1. BEND AT KNEES
2. YANK FROM WALL
3. DROP ON OPPONENT UNTIL HE EATS THROUGH A STRAW.

www.com

www.backstageassault.com

Crates in the boiler room. Urinals in the bathroom. Anything within reach is now a weapon. Backstage isn't just part of the arena. It's part of your arsenal.

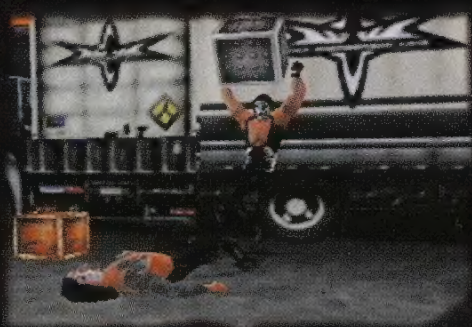
75

INSTRUCTIONS


1. BEND AT KNEES
2. YANK FROM WALL
3. DROP ON OPPONENT UNTIL HE EATS THROUGH A STRAW.



www.backstageassault.com



Crates in the boiler room. Urinals in the bathroom. Anything within reach is now a weapon. Backstage isn't just part of the arena. It's part of your arsenal.


**BACKSTAGE
ASSAULT**
Survival Has Its Own Rules.

THE GENETIC FREAK OF SPORTS ENTERTAINMENT

UNLEASHED



LIVE ONLY ON PAY-PER-VIEW
SUNDAY NOVEMBER 26, 8:00 PM/ET

PATIENT: **Scott Steiner**

AKA: Big Poppa Pump

NOTE:

CARD SUBJECT TO CHANGE

WCW.COM



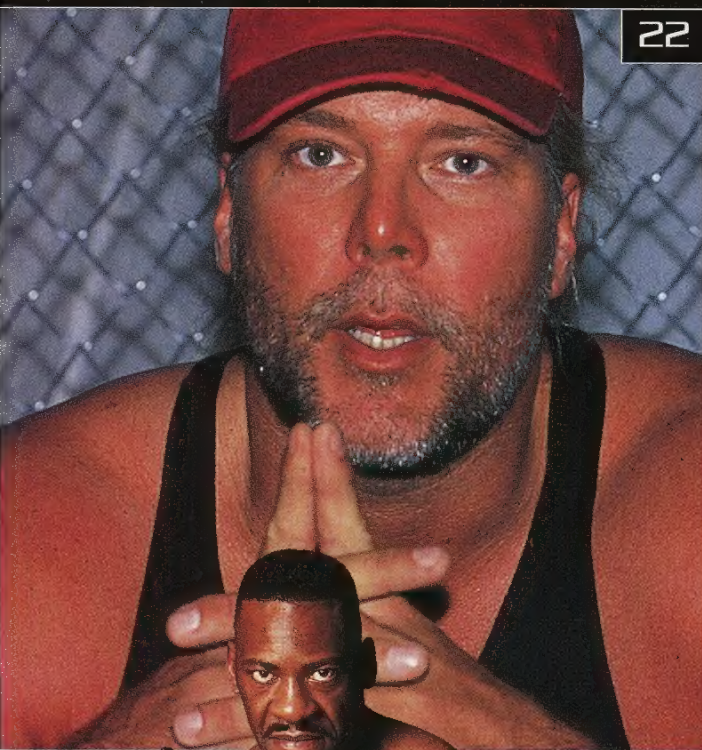
world championship wrestling™

TV
14
DSL

LIVE
PAY-PER-VIEW

Q

contact your pay-per-view provider now!



22

22 **Uncensored: Kevin Nash**

A question-and-answer session with "Big Sexy."

28 **Deconstructing Booker T.**

A piece-by-piece look at the two-time WCW world champion.

30 **The Face of a Heel**

Portraying a villain who is both hated and entertaining is an acquired skill—and sometimes a perilous role.

44 **"I'm Next"—An Excerpt**

WCW MAGAZINE acquired first rights to excerpt Bill Goldberg's book. We chose Chapter Four, in which Goldberg discusses the creation of his character.

50 **Eye of the Storm**

Underneath the ultra-serious Lance Storm persona lies Lance Evers, a family man known for his dry wit.

54 **Prime Choice**

Elix Skipper hasn't looked back after leaving a stable job to dive headfirst into a sports entertainment career.

62 **Cover Story Smokin' Gunns**

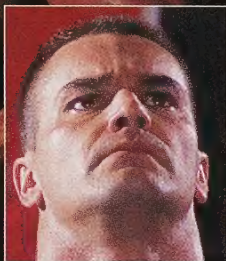
Once a shy teenager, Tylene Buck now soars with the superstars of WCW as Major Gunns.

68 **Nitro Girls Spotlight**

An up-close and personal look at Starr.



28

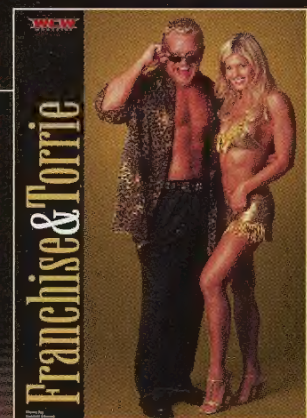


50

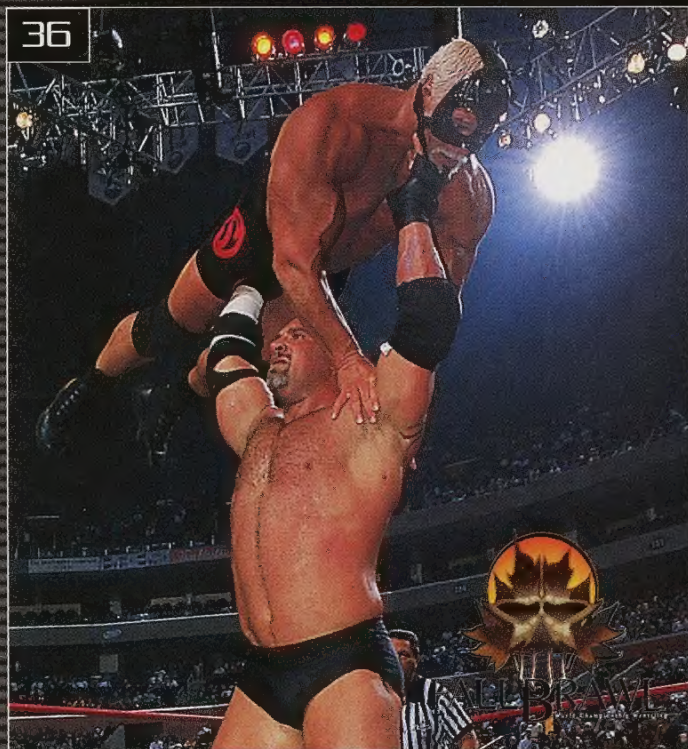


68

Free Posters



Main Event



Departments

8 Letters

10 Eck's Files

By Kevin Eck

12 Sound Bites

By Mark Madden

14 Rope Dope

72 Two Questions

78 Nitro Air Waves

By Tony Schiavone and Scott Hudson

80 The Professor

By Mike Tenay

82 Jaw Jacking

By Madusa

WCW

The Official Publication of
World Championship Wrestling

Issue No. 67 • November 2000

Publisher/Editor-in-Chief	Ken Leiker
Art Director	Jim Schlottman
Editor	Kevin Eck
Associate Editor	Graham Boain
Photo Editor	Joseph M. Murphy
Chief Photographer	Scott Cunningham
Production Coordinator	Elliot Leson
Staff Writers	Chad Damiani Ross Forman
Special Contributors	Scott Hudson Mark Madden Madusa Tony Schiavone Mike Tenay
Contributing Photographers	Garrett Ellwood Allen Kee
Administrative Assistant	Jennifer Williams
Executive Publisher	Jerry L. Croft
Circulation Manager	Cary Zel
Newsstand Manager	Brian Gregory
Advertising Sales	Michael Weinstein 949-830-6565 949-830-3995 (fax) Yoav Shahar 212-596-6486 212-596-6363 (fax)

World Championship Wrestling, Inc.

VP-Marketing	Aaron Blitzstein
VP-Syndication Ad Sales	Rob Garner
VP-Arenas/Merchandise	Gary Juster
VP-Int'l Development	Sharon Sidello

The entire contents of this publication are copyright ©2000 World Championship Wrestling Inc., a Time Warner company. All rights reserved. WCW, nWo, New World Order and all other distinctive names and character likenesses herein are trademarks of World Championship Wrestling Inc. or used under license to World Championship Wrestling Inc. Nothing in this publication may be reproduced without the express written consent of WCW. WCW is not responsible for unsolicited manuscripts. All materials submitted for inclusion in this magazine may be subject to any edits deemed necessary by WCW.

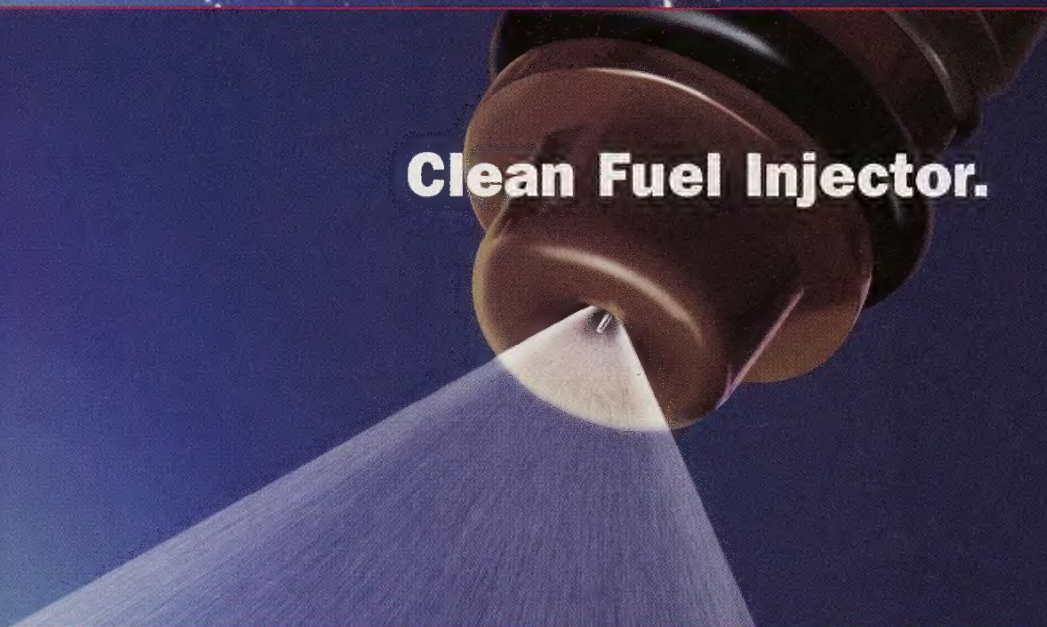
WCW (USA UPC 72246-48770) (USA ISSN 1057-1396) (UK ISSN 1357-0137) (USPS 016-177) is published monthly by World Championship Wrestling, Inc., One CNN Center, Box 105366, Atlanta, GA 30348-5366. Periodicals postage paid at Atlanta, GA and additional mailing offices. Subscriptions: \$24.97 a year within the United States, \$34.97 outside the United States. For subscription information, call 1-904-447-3462. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: WCW MAGAZINE, P.O. Box 420234, Palm Coast, FL 32142.

Audit Bureau of Circulations
(membership pending)
Printed in the USA

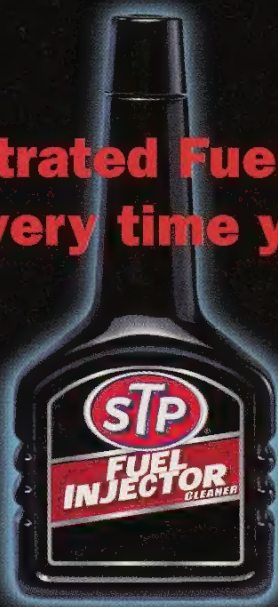
Dirty Fuel Injector.



Clean Fuel Injector.



**Put STP® Concentrated Fuel Injector Cleaner
in your gas tank every time you change your oil.**



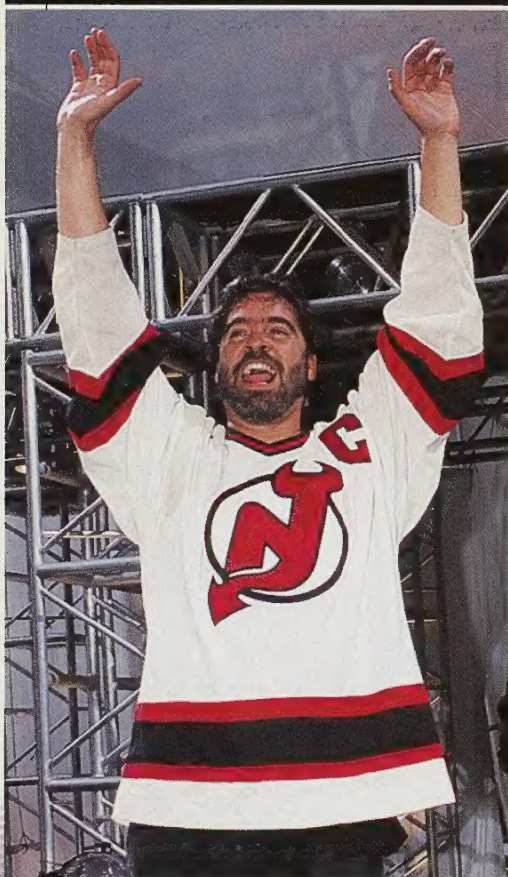
Because fuel injectors work better when they're clean.

Vince Russo is the best thing to ever happen to WCW. I am a proud WCW fan, and I publicly put down fans of the WWF and criticize their show. War Games 2000: Russo's Revenge was the most entertaining Nitro show ever—it was the best two hours of wrestling I have seen, including pay-per-views. My 85-year-old grandmother and 58-year-old mother have started watching WCW. I'm proud to say that as a 20-year-old university student, your show is the only weekly program that gives me an adrenaline rush.

Dave Rostron
Birmingham, England

WCW deserves a lot of credit for finally giving a push to some of its younger wrestlers, such as the Natural Born Thrillers and "Prime Time" Elix Skipper.

Russo: Raising the bar in sports entertainment.



SCOTT CUNNINGHAM/WCW

This is what the New Blood movement should have been about all along. Some of the guys in the Natural Born Thrillers have a lot of potential. Sean O'Haire is a sure bet to be a future champion. His moves look so good that it is hard to believe he trained for only six months in the Power Plant. The other wrestler that really stands out is "Above Average" Mike Sanders. It was a smart move to make him the mouthpiece of the group.

Raffaele Berardi
Roselle, IL

I'm a wrestling fan in England who had been purchasing the WWF magazine for a few months but recently decided to try WCW MAGAZINE. I bought your magazine with Goldberg on the cover (August 2000) and after reading it I realized that WCW is putting out the best wrestling magazine. I love the out-of-character interviews and learning about the background of the wrestlers. The Vince Russo interview was really good. I'm going to buy WCW MAGAZINE more frequently.

Lee Hurrell
Via e-mail

Why did Vince Russo and the creative team decide not to bring back the Oklahoma character? I thought he was rather comical and should have been used as a regular broadcaster. Also, bring back real women wrestlers like Madusa on a regular basis. And Nitro needs to become a three-hour program again. The script is compacted too much for a two-hour program.

Jessie Blunt
Via e-mail

I look forward to seeing the Filthy Animals every week. But most of all, I would like to see Rey Mysterio Jr. get



GARRETT ELLWOOD/WCW

Sanders: Better than the average newcomer.

the cruiserweight title because Rey probably is the best cruiserweight ever.

Eric Chauvette
Via e-mail

Seeing that Kevin Nash, Scott Steiner, Bret Hart and Jeff Jarrett worked together as a "demolition team" on Goldberg, Ernest "The Cat" Miller and Booker T, is it safe to say that nWo 2000 is back together again? If so, we believe it's about time. Scott Hall and Nash said it best in 1998: "When you're nWo, you're nWo 4 Life."

Calvin Cook, Cade Cypriano, Cameron Weatherford
Via e-mail

Thanks to Kevin Eck for his column in the September 2000 issue ("WCW Bashing Fashionable, But Not Always Justified"). Kevin's article gives me material to convince people that WCW delivers a great product each week.

Adrian Bruhm
Via e-mail

Tony Schiavone is WCW's best announcer. I respect Tony because he respects all the wrestlers—even the ones who are real jerks on TV. I don't think some of the wrestlers realize that they make fools of themselves. The funny part is that they are little boys in big bodies being paid to fight.

Angel Benoit
Via e-mail

Mail letters to:

Letters to the Editor
WCW Magazine

1 CNN Center • Box 105366
Atlanta, GA 30348-5366

E-mail letters to: letters@turner.com



before victory

comes humility

Look within. Find that part of you which knows no surrender. Because Namco has issued the greatest challenges for the PlayStation®2 computer entertainment system. Whether it's the furious Tekken Tag Tournament, the flat-out Ridge Racer V, or the heart-pounding MotoGP, victory won't come easily — if at all. But when you finally seize it, you will discover your inner champion.



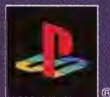
TEKKEN TAG TOURNAMENT



RIDGE RACER V



MOTO GP



PlayStation 2



Goldberg and Steiner's Futures Paved With Gold



By Kevin Eck



SCOTT CUNNINGHAM/WCW (3)

DAVID DUROCHIK/WCW

It's time for my first installment of "Fact and Opinion," in which I present tidbits of information along with my take on them.

Fact: David Arquette has won the WCW world heavyweight title as many times (once) as Goldberg and Scott Steiner combined.

Opinion: That embarrassing bit of trivia soon will be obsolete. Steiner always has maintained that he isn't a mark for the belt, but he has to be growing tired of being known as the greatest wrestler to never have won the world title. Putting the strap on "Big Poppa Pump" is long overdue. Not only will it happen, it has to happen.

Goldberg won the championship from Hollywood Hogan as a rookie in 1998 and held it for five months. The problem was that it was too much, too soon for Goldberg. In sports entertainment today, fans want unpredictable storylines that move at a fast pace. There is no room for a guy who never loses. The days of Bruno Sammartino and Verne Gagne having title reigns that last nearly a decade are long gone. Goldberg is a much more interesting character as the hunter, as the underdog who has to overcome all odds. Will Goldberg win the title again? Absolutely. But it will come after a long, hard chase. Don't be surprised to see Steiner and Goldberg battling each other for the gold over the next few years. Their epic battles should completely eradicate the blemish the squirrely actor put on the title.

Fact: Jeff Jarrett had wrestled in seven straight pay-per-view main events before working an undercard match at Fall Brawl.

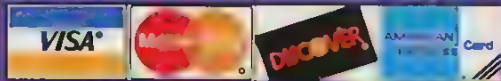
Opinion: In a company that has some of the biggest names in wrestling on its roster, Jarrett undoubtedly has been WCW's Most Valuable Player in 2000. He headlined every WCW pay-per-view from February's SuperBrawl to August's New Blood Rising. Jarrett was especially impor-

tant to the company in the first couple months of that span, when a number of top stars were sidelined because of injuries. More importantly, Jarrett's matches lived up to their main-event billing. Whether working with a big man such as Sid Vicious, a talented worker such as Booker T. or competing in a triple-cage match, Jarrett proved he is a consummate pro as well as "The Chosen One." The fact that his run ended at Fall Brawl shouldn't be seen as a negative—it's just time to get others involved in the main-event mix. And you can bet that Jarrett has more pay-per-view main events in his future.

Fact: Crowbar has not wrestled in a pay-per-view event since April's Spring Stampede, not counting his cameo role in his underwear in the Wedding Gown Match at July's Bash at the Beach.

Opinion: One of the highlights of Uncensored in March was the sight of Crowbar being choke-slammed by The Wall off a 15-foot structure through a stage. That bump and Crowbar's expected pursuit of revenge against The Wall should have elevated him to the next level. Unfortunately, that was one of the storylines extinguished when the new creative team assumed control in April, and Crowbar has yet to regain momentum. That's a shame, because Crowbar is a major talent. Even without much of a storyline, Crowbar is over with the fans. People are looking for a reason to really get behind this character. Crowbar takes insane bumps, has great facial expressions and his acting ability is better than most. Beyond all that, he's several years away from his 30th birthday, and that is significant in a company trying to shed its image of being the promotion with the "older guys." ♦

Contact Kevin Eck by e-mail at ecksfiles@turner.com



PHONE: 1-401-946-5720

FAX: 1-401-946-8492



Address: FIGURES INC.
P.O. Box 19482, Johnston, RI 02919

HOURS

Monday-Friday - 9 a.m.-8 p.m. EST
Saturday - 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Closed Sunday

www.wrestlingsuperstore.com E-Mail: FigInc@aol.com

Belt Comes with 1 nameplate
Choose from the following:

- Goldberg
- Kevin Nash
- Ric Flair
- Sting
- Hogan
- DDP
- Blank
- Bret Hart



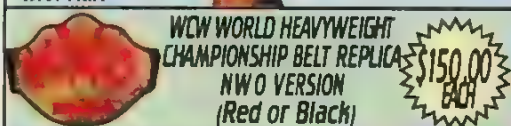
WCW World Heavyweight Championship Belt Replica

\$150.00
each

This exact-scale replica of the WCW World Heavyweight Championship belt measures 4 feet 8 inches long & is made of simulated leather the exact thickness of the original. It features:

- 3 goldtone metal medallions cast from the original-the center medallion measures 12 inches tall!

NOW YOU CAN OWN A DELUXE FULL-SIZE REPLICA OF THE WCW WORLD HEAVYWEIGHT BELT!!!



WCW WORLD HEAVYWEIGHT
CHAMPIONSHIP BELT REPLICA
NWO VERSION
(Red or Black)

\$150.00
each



WCW CRUISERWEIGHT
CHAMPIONSHIP
BELT
REPLICA

\$150.00
each



WCW UNITED STATES
HEAVYWEIGHT
CHAMPIONSHIP
BELT REPLICA

\$150.00
each



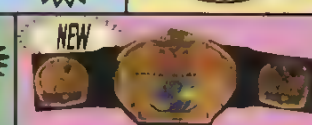
WCW 1999 TAG TEAM
CHAMPIONSHIP
BELT REPLICA

\$150.00
each



WCW WORLD TELEVISION CHAMPIONSHIP BELT REPLICA

\$150.00
each



WCW HARDCORE
CHAMPIONSHIP
BELT
REPLICA

\$150.00
each

---All WCW Belt Replicas Also Available In Kid Sizes \$75.00 Each---

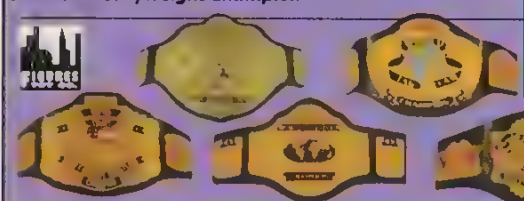
WCW Toy Belt Replicas

Actual Size Toy Belt
\$25.00 each

Choose From:

WCW World Heavyweight Champion with Goldberg nameplate

WCW US Heavyweight Champion



Each belt
measures 3.5
feet long and
fits up to a 48
inch waist.

Each belt is made of a simulated
leather strap with metal plates
These are the best quality kids
belts ever produced!!!

Each belt
measures 3.5
feet long and
fits up to a 36
inch waist

WCW Mini Belt Replica

- Made from same material as full size replica
- Measures 12 inches long
- Center plate measures 3.5 inches high
- Use as a wristband or desktop display
- Choose from the following nameplates:
Goldberg, Bret Hart, Sting, Nash, Flair, Hogan

\$30.00
each

Exclusive Figure Gear for 6 inch action figures

- CLOTHING
- Black & White Checkered Shirt
 - Army Jacket
 - Football Jersey
 - Black T Shirt
 - White T Shirt
 - Leather Jacket
 - Black Dress Pants
 - Black neck Tie
 - Black Warm-Up Pants
 - Gray Warm-Up Pants
 - Security Jacket
 - Paramedic Jacket
 - Event Staff Jacket
 - Referee Shirt
 - Hooded Sweat Shirts

- Gear
- Wrestling Masks
 - Plastic Folding Chairs
 - Crowd Control Railing
 - Figure Towels
 - Fake Blood
 - Stretcher
 - Trash Can



Kid Toy Belt.....\$20.00 each

Choose From

- WCW US Heavyweight Champion
- WCW World Tag Team Champion
- WCW Hardcore Champion
- WCW Cruiserweight Champion

- WCW World Television Champion
- WCW World Heavyweight Champion
- WCW World Heavyweight Champion
- WCW World Heavyweight Champion (with Goldberg Nameplate)

WCW Micro Figures 6 Inch Action Figures by San Francisco Toy Makers

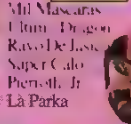
- | Series 1 | Series 2 | Series 3 |
|------------|------------|------------------|
| DDP | Hogan | Goldberg |
| Raven | Savage | Sting (red face) |
| The Giant | Henning | Rey Mysterio Jr |
| Sting | Scott Hall | Buff Bagwell |
| Kevin Nash | Lex Luger | Scott Steiner |
| Ric Flair | Bret Hart | \$10.00 Each |



Mexican Wrestling Masks

- Choose from:
- Rey Mysterio Jr
 - Escobedo Guerrero
 - Thunder Luger
 - El Zorro Jr
 - Eschobos
 - Atlantis
 - Konnan

\$30.00
Each



WCW Main Event Cards

- Complete
set of 100
cards for
\$20.00 or
(2 sets
for \$35.00)



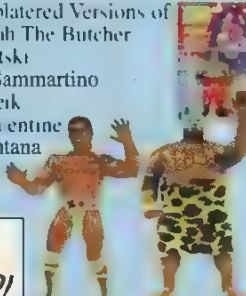
\$3.00 each
Any 4 for \$8.00
Any 12 for \$20.00

LEGENDS OF PROFESSIONAL WRESTLING 6 INCH ACTION FIGURES

- Highly detailed with 3 to 6 points of articulation
- Compatible with other 6 inch action figures on the market
- Limited to only 10,000 figures, each comes mint on card
- Choose from Regular or Blood Splattered Versions of
- King Kong Bundy
- Abdullah The Butcher
- Killer Kowalski
- Ivan Putski
- Tony Atlas
- Bruno Sammartino
- Nikolai Volkoff
- Iron Sheik
- Kamala
- Greg Valentine
- Bob Orton Jr.
- Tito Santana
- Young Bruno Sammartino



\$8.00 each
or
(2 for \$15.00)



4 Ever
A Look Behind the Curtain
Written by Arn Anderson with a foreword by Ric Flair
A 164 page book about Arn's career from start to finish
A Figures Inc. exclusive!!
\$20.00 each or (2 for \$35.00)

WCW 8 x 10 Photos \$5.00 each or (5 for \$20.00)

Choose From:

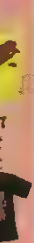
- Chris Benoit
- Kevin Nash
- Scott Hall
- Sting
- DDP
- Randy Savage
- Rey Mysterio Jr
- Giant
- Buff Bagwell
- Nitro Girls
- Four Horsemen
- Roddy Piper
- Arn Anderson

- Ric Flair
- Goldberg
- Hollywood Hogan
- Raven
- Lex Luger
- Chris Jericho
- Booker T
- Bret Hart
- Eric Bischoff
- Elizabeth
- Bam Bam Bigelow
- DDP & Kimberly
- Spice



WCW T SHIRTS

- Sting
- Hulk Hogan
- Tea: Away T-Shirt
- Outsiders T-Shirt
- Bret Hart T-Shirt
- Sting
- Monie
- Lane
- X-Lence
- XX-Xing



Bret Hart: Hitman Hart
Wrestling with Shadows Cd
Songs picked
by Bret Hart,
including the
Hitman Hart
theme
\$20.00 each

WCW 2001 Calendar
\$15.00 each

Life-size standups

Life-size standups are
full color and actual size

Choose from:

Goldberg
Scott Hall
Kevin Nash

\$30.00
each



Note: These are only available to our United States customers. We cannot send these overseas to other countries due to their size. US customers must give us a street address (no P.O. boxes)

PAYMENT TERMS:
CHECKS, MONEY ORDERS, ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS,
CASH. MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO FIGURES, INC. NO
ORDER FORM NEEDED. JUST WRITE DOWN ORDER ON A
PIECE OF PAPER AND SEND ALONG WITH PAYMENT 30
DAY RETURN MONEY BACK GUARANTEE

- ORDERS SHIPPED SAME DAY RECEIVED
- ALL ITEMS ARE IN STOCK
- INTERNATIONAL ORDERS WELCOME!!
(ADD \$25.00 SH PER TOTAL ORDER)

U.S. SHIPPING IS \$5.00
PER TOTAL ORDER
(IF OVER \$100.00 ADD
ONLY \$7.00)

64 PAGE FULL COLOR
WRESTLING CATALOG:
SEND \$2.00 FOR A COPY
Also Available:
Wrestling Video Catalog \$1.00

Konnan, General Rection Deserve Star Treatment



By Mark
Madden

WCW is in the process of creating new top stars, and the process is going quite well. Booker T. has jumped to the head of the class in his role as world champion. Vampiro has benefited from his association with Japanese legend Great Muta and rap icons Insane Clown Posse. "The Franchise" Shane Douglas has a great man/woman thing going with Torrie Wilson. Lance Storm has positioned himself to become the next Bret Hart, a technical wizard with Canadian style. Kidman has competed against headliners of years past and present, and he has looked good against everyone.

So, as Goldberg would say, who's next? What WCW performers should be elevated next? I say Konnan and General Rection.

First, let's make sure we get the Konnan story straight. Konnan is one of the biggest stars Mexico ever has had; he sold out countless arenas south of the Rio Grande. He drew big houses as a headliner in Los Angeles, where promoters capitalize on the city's large Latino population.

Konnan has nothing to prove to WCW. Rather, WCW has something to prove to Konnan. Except for a brief stint in the old nWo Wolfpac, where he achieved some popularity, Konnan never has been used properly by WCW. He has been a star forced to play bit parts. The guy starred in soap operas and released hip-hop albums in Mexico. Konnan obviously has charisma. Now he appears ready to get his chance.

Konnan has been recovering from arm surgery, which has limited his ability to

perform for several months. By the time you read this, he should be ready to wrestle again. If I'm WCW creative management, I put him in the U.S. title picture. You hear how the crowd responds when Konnan talks—he's way over. Konnan is one of the few acts in sports entertainment that truly is Y2K compliant.

Konnan is hip. He's cool. He's tight, as the kids say. All of the Filthy Animals are the same way—except Disgo, of course.

General Rection, meanwhile, has been the leader of Misfits in Action, perhaps WCW's top comedy act. MIA has provided WCW with many light-hearted moments. But—no offense to MIA—General Rection is capable of much more.

This guy used to rip Japanese hardcore wrestling apart with some of the most intense performances ever seen in the Far East. More important, General Rection can go. He is one of the most agile big men ever in sports entertainment. How many guys his size can do a moonsault? Not only that, but General Rection has charisma. It's time to position him within MIA like Ric Flair used to be positioned within the Four Horsemen (not that I'm comparing the two groups). Have General Rection lead MIA, but break him away frequently to compete for titles. Have him do comedy with MIA, but let him be a serious wrestler, too. I would put General Rection in the U.S. title picture immediately.

I don't mean to slight anyone by pushing Konnan and General Rection. Plenty of other WCW performers deserve to be elevated, and it looks—finally—like many of them will be. But Konnan and General Rection have been waiting in line the longest. It's time for them to get some.

• • •

I must admit, I was skeptical of Stevie Ray doing color commentary on Thunder when I first heard it was a possibility. Sure, the guy is an entertaining interview. But excelling at



DAVID DUROCHIK/WCW

Konnan:
He's got
it like that.

the microphone for 90 seconds is a lot different than chattering for two hours. I wasn't impressed with Stevie Ray's debut; he spent too much time being a "wrestling announcer" and not enough time being Stevie Ray.

But since that first night, Stevie Ray has been awesome. He's become the Stevie Ray that makes us laugh non-stop backstage, and he's impressed me with his ability to give the wrestler's point of view.

Speaking of the WCW announcing team, congratulations to Scott Hudson on the birth of his daughter. Hudson says that besides working with me, it was the biggest thrill of his life.

• • •

I always say "snootchie-bootchies" whenever the lovely Miss Hancock appears on screen—Stacy, I'd love the opportunity to scream it off-screen, if you get my drift—and a lot of people have wondered why. More specifically, they wonder what the heck it means.

I picked up that phrase from director Kevin Smith's movies: "Clerks," "Mallrats," "Chasing Amy" and "Dogma." Those movies have two recurring characters named Jay and Silent Bob, and Jay often utters "snootchie-bootchies" when he's excited. "Snootchie-bootchies" has no discernible meaning. I say it because Miss Hancock is hot and it sounds lascivious. I originally planned to say "snootchie-bootchies" whenever any major babe appeared on screen, but Miss Hancock, in that persuasive way she has, convinced me to reserve "snootchie-bootchies" just for her.

• • •

WCW has given Insane Clown Posse's Juggalo Championship Wrestling mini-promotion a lot of air-time. Here's why: The JCW videotape is outselling all of WCW's videotapes. WCW hopes Violent J and Shaggy 2



Send in the clowns: With Violent J and Shaggy 2 Dope on board, WCW hopes to score big in the Juggalo demographic.

CARLTON ELWOOD/WCW

Dope can rally their Juggalos behind WCW. A "Juggalo," by the way, is a fan of ICP.

Vampiro is the reigning JCW world champion. That belt has a storied past. Vampiro readily admits that a guy known as "Evil Dead" is the greatest JCW champ of all time. "Because he won it while he was dead—that's a pretty big accomplishment," Vampiro says. Larry Zbyszko, Johnny Ace, Fritz Von Erich, Dr. Bill Miller, Satoru Sayama, Karl Gotch—the list of great former JCW champions goes on and on. Look for JCW at an arena near you sometime this year. Don't be surprised if some WCW stars make surprise appearances.

• • •

Disco Inferno says he's changing the spelling of his name to "Disqo." I guess now we have to change the spelling of "jackass" to "jaqass." I like "Dim Shady" better. ... Jeremy Borash actually got a little trim from the Nitro Girls. Very impressive. ...

Kevin Nash proved again that he is the smartest man in sports entertainment at War Games 2000. Throw a few punches, hit a few chokeslams, then stand by the door and look sexy while you wait for the belt. Nash never lets them see him sweat, and I mean that in a good way. ...

For the love of God, bring back Scott Hall. ♦

Contact Mark Madden by e-mail at madden@turner.com

the wait is over!
get the film that's

**flakked,
stacked
and
action-
packed!**

**you've never
seen animation
this hot!**



**DVD Loaded With
Kick-Ass Features Including
JULIE STRAIN: SUPERGODDESS
Featurette, Animation Tests
and Comparisons!**
**Get it on
VHS and DVD
October 17, 2000!**



© 1999 Animation Cini-Gruppe H.M. Inc./Helson Media Film Production GmbH
© 2000 Layout and Design Co. Jumbo Tristar Home Video. All Rights Reserved.

www.cthv.com

Fighter from Down Under Hopes to Get Over in WCW

Sam Greco is a world full-contact karate champion and a dual world champion in kickboxing. The Japanese call him "Fist of the Beast," and soon WCW superstars will get to know Greco up close and personal.

Considered one of the toughest men in the world, the 6'2", 235-pound Greco trained at WCW's Power Plant in preparation for his sports entertainment debut. Growing up in Melbourne, Australia, Greco was a fan of professional wrestling. Because of the brutality of kickboxing and karate, Greco knew there was no longevity in those sports, and he had to find something less dangerous. He retired from kickboxing in September.

Greco planned to move his wife Chris and 3-year-old daughter Laetitia to the United States after

WCW's Australian tour in October. "They are my strength," he says.

Greco has competed all over Asia, with the majority of his fights in Japan contested in front of crowds of 75,000. On the differences between fighting in the K-1 Grand Prix, the premier martial arts tournament in the world, and WCW, Greco says: "When I let go of a punch in kickboxing it's to hit and hurt. In kickboxing, I want to tear my opponent's head off and he wants to tear mine off. In wrestling, it's more of a dance. You don't want to intentionally hurt anybody. Two guys work together and it's us two against the crowd."

On his future in WCW, Greco offers this: "Sam Greco is his own gimmick. I am a world champion. People around the world know me as hardcore and the ring is my office."



Landing on His Feet

Jon Hugger, a.k.a. Johnny the Bull, suffered one of the scariest in-ring injuries in recent memory on July 3. Doctors initially predicted Hugger would be out of action for at least six months. But 10 weeks later, he was back in the ring.

Hugger was injured when he performed a springboard leap from the top rope to the floor onto a prone Terry Funk. Hugger suffered a torn urethra, torn bladder, strained pelvis, disc and spine damage and a pulled groin. He was in the hospital for a week after the injury, endured a 106-degree temperature and required a catheter for two weeks.

"I know it was a dangerous move, but I was wrestling my first singles match on Nitro, and I was against the legendary Terry Funk. I wanted it to be special, different," Hugger says. "I was psyched up. It was a rookie mistake. I'm just lucky it didn't end my career."

Because of the severity of Hugger's injuries, don't expect to see him performing that move again. "I definitely learned my lesson—the hard way, this time," he says. "That move probably took a year out of my career. I guess that's the risk you take when you do moves like that."

"I sprung a little higher than I wanted to. When I came down, I landed all of my weight on the concrete. I immediately felt something pop, and that was my bladder bursting. I tried to stand up, but I fell down. I surprised myself that I was able to finish the match."

After being carried to the locker room, Hugger "tried to urinate, but it was only blood. I thought it was going to be career-ending. That was one of the hardest two-week stretches of my life. I now have a renewed fire in my heart. I'm more motivated to succeed."

Lunden Calling

Former Good Morning America co-host Joan Lunden recently visited WCW's Power Plant training facility in Smyrna, Georgia. In 1994, she hosted the "Behind Closed Doors" Lunden and her crew also did filming for the documentary about how to become a wrestler in WCW—at the Time Warner Center in Wyck Barre, Pennsylvania.

While visiting the Power Plant, Lunden was shown the ways of the ring by Madusa, who was interviewed along with Vince Russo, Paul Orndorff and Kevin Nash. No airdate had been set for the episode.



Getting to Know Leia Meow

Real name: Kristina Laum • **Birthplace:** Korea

Hometown: Newtown Square, Pennsylvania • **Residence:** Voorhees, New Jersey

Age: 23 • **Marital status:** Single • **Measurements:** 34D-22-32 • **Height:** 5'1"

Weight: 100 pounds • **Eyes:** Dark brown • **Hair:** Black • **Years in wrestling:** 6

How I broke into the business: "I was friends with Raven and he asked me if I wanted to see an ECW show. I got there late, the place was crowded, and I'm extremely short and I couldn't see anything. So I climbed up on a huge platform and watched the matches. They were yelling at me to get down, and everyone turned around and was pointing at me because they thought I was part of the show. A week after that I was working for ECW."

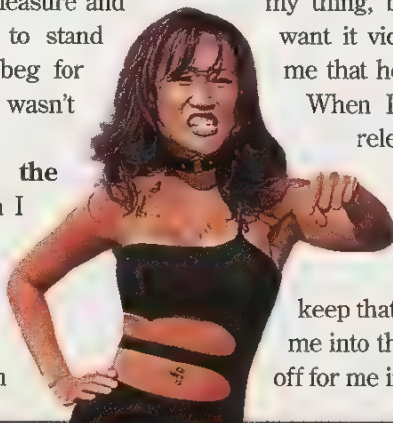
My secret fantasy: "Tying a guy up, giving him so much pleasure and then just being able to stand there and have him beg for more. Did I mention I wasn't shy?"

On training at the Power Plant: "When I first started, everyone thought I was fragile and dainty, but I think I shocked everyone. A lot of them

were afraid to work with me because they were like: 'She's so small; she can't be that strong.' Well, I picked up Madusa and bodyslammed her. Madusa was like: 'If she can pick me up, she can pick any of you up.'"

On the infamous "striptease" videotape as Kimona in ECW: "I was like 17 or 18 when I did that. The ring broke that night in Philadelphia, and Paul E. (ECW boss Paul Heyman) yelled for me to get out there so the fans wouldn't riot. I went out there and did my thing, but I told him I didn't want it videotaped. He swore to me that he wouldn't videotape it.

When I quit, that's when he released the tape, and I never saw a cent. It's been five years and they're still advertising it. But I let him keep that money because he got me into this business, and it paid off for me in the long run."



By the Numbers ...

8

Weeks between hair colorings for Tygress.

3

Whips owned by Tygress. "I've only used one, though," she says.



12

Professional wrestlers in the Guerrero family.

80

Tattoos Vampiro had on his body at last count.

365

Days a year Scott Steiner kisses his biceps.

1

Times that Konnan lets you touch his shirt—and that's enough.

2

Master's degrees held by the "Franchise" Shane Douglas. They are in education and biological sciences.

50

Bags of earth used to make the mud pit for the ROTC match at New Blood Rising.

2½

Gallons of water mixed to each bag of earth to make the mud.

1991

Last time there was a Scaffold Match in WCW before Fall Brawl 2000. The 1991 match pitted Bobby Eaton and P.N. News against Terry Taylor and Steve Austin.



We asked Stevie Ray his view on the following personalities

Ruff Hawg

Shane Douglas He can drop the "Franchise" tag. He's a decent wrestler.

Paisley On like neckbone.

Chuck Palumbo Great athlete, but his mind tends to stray.

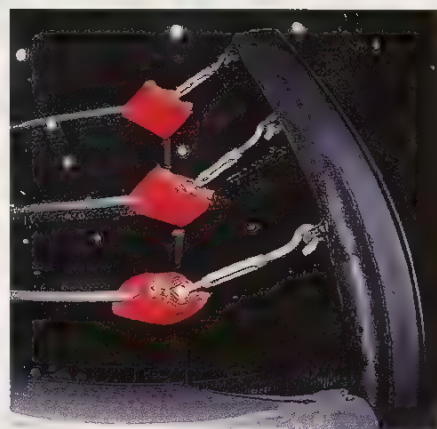
Disco Unusual person; no dancing ability; a wanna-be.

Diamond Dallas Page Everyone knows he'll do anything to get over.

Anatomy of the Ring

One of the biggest misconceptions about professional wrestling is the ring. Although the floor might look like a trampoline mat pulled tight, and the ropes appear to have a lot of give, the reality is much different. WCW MAGAZINE talked with Power Plant instructor DeWayne "Sarge" Bruce, WCW's resident ring doctor, on what makes a wrestling ring.

"The floor of the ring is basically the same type of wood that people use to make decks out of," Bruce says. "We use 40 boards for the floor. On top of



Living His Dream

As a senior at Marlinton High School in Alliance, Ohio, Allan Funk had a 1965 fire-engine red Plymouth Valiant. To spice it up, and show his love of pro wrestling, he spray-painted "Hulkamania" in yellow on the sides. "I was a huge Hulk Hogan fan," says Funk, the vice president of his senior class.

Funk wasn't just a Hogan supporter; he liked most of wrestling's superheroes of the 1980s. Today, Funk is the one building memories for fans through his portrayal of Kwee-Wee, an "eccentric individual with tremendous taste in clothing and women, as you can no doubt tell," he says.

The 5'10", 220-pound Funk, a product of the WCW Power Plant, made his Nitro debut on July 31 with a win over The Artist. At September's Fall Brawl in Buffalo—with his

parents Dick and Connie and many of his nieces and nephews in attendance—Kwee-Wee lost to champion "Prime Time" Elix Skipper in a cruiserweight title match.

"It's unbelievable being a pro wrestler, especially for WCW. It still hasn't really sunk in," says

Funk, who spent five years as a heavy equipment operator

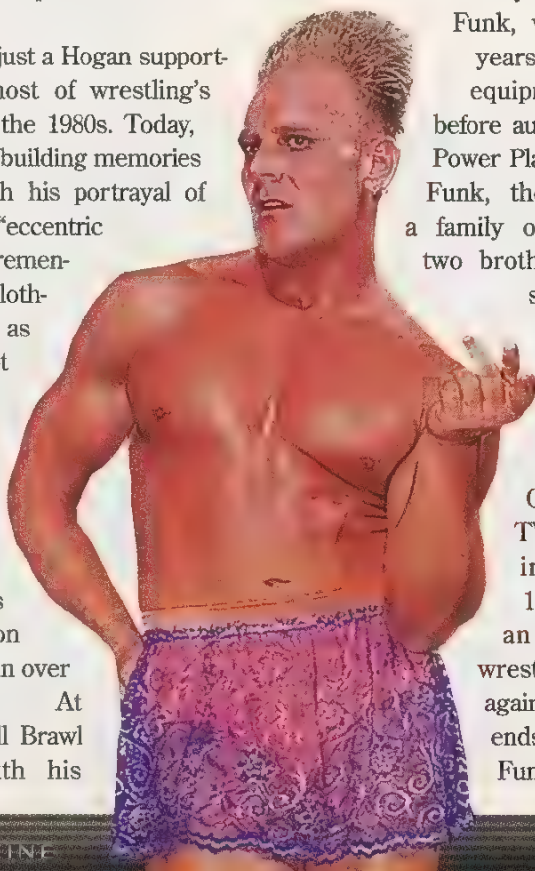
before auditioning at the Power Plant in July 1998.

Funk, the youngest in a family of six (he has two brothers and three sisters), moved

to Atlanta that fall and started training at the

Power Plant in October. His first TV match was in September

1999. "It's truly an honor to be wrestling with and against so many legends in the sport," Funk says.



that is an amateur wrestling mat. Then we stretch a canvas over the amateur mat.

"The ropes are made of rubber hose that cover steel cable. Just running the ropes will bruise your back like you wouldn't believe. There is a T-bracket that fits between the bottom base and the top base of the ring. Our rings are 18 feet, and all the WCW rings are made the same."

Bruce says it takes him about two days to build a ring. Depending on the quality of the wood, a ring should last eight to 10 years.

The next time you are watching WCW television and think the physical action is fake, remember that the falls and bumps each superstar takes are done on a surface comparable to a deck in your backyard.

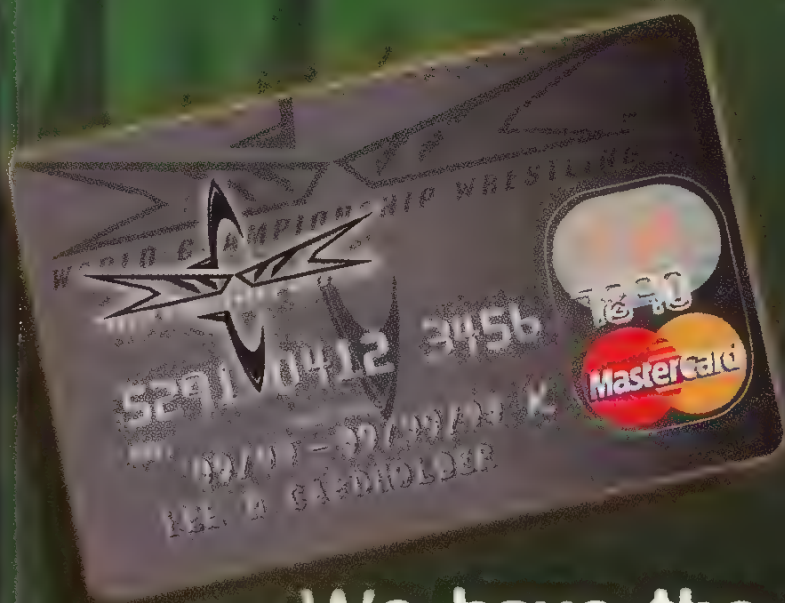


INTRODUCING
THE

CARD

TO GO
TO THE

MAT
FOR



The **ONLY** card for
REAL wrestling fans —
with great rates and
killer benefits.

We have the card YOU want!

You'll get:

- A signature card featuring your choice of 5 WCW™ wrestling designs
- A 10% discount on WCW™ merchandise
- A FREE subscription to the WCW™ newsletter, Ringside Rap

1-800-797-5757



For wrestling updates, see our website at WCW.com

© 2001 World Championship Wrestling, A Time Warner Company. All Rights Reserved.

Showbill

October

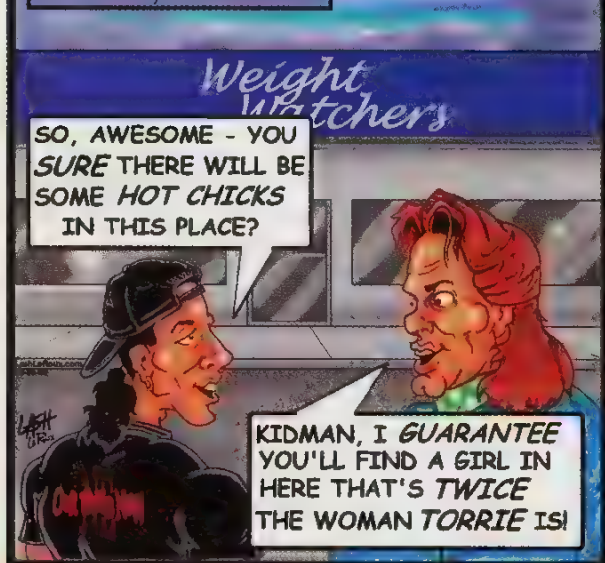
Date/Place	Event	Arena	Time (local)	Ticket Info
2 San Francisco	Nitro	Cow Palace	4:30 pm	415-469-6065
3 Long Beach, CA	Thunder	Sports Arena	7 pm	562-436-3661
7 Brisbane, Australia	Nitro	Entertainment Center	8 pm	011-61-3265-8111
9 Sydney, Australia	Thunder	Entertainment Center	7:30 pm	011-612-9320-4208
10 Sydney, Australia		Entertainment Center	7:30 pm	011-612-9320-4208
13 Melbourne, Australia	Nitro	Rod Laver Arena	8 pm	011-613-9286-1234
14 Melbourne, Australia	Thunder	Rod Laver Arena	8 pm	011-613-9286-1234
23 Little Rock, AR	Nitro/Thunder	Alltel Arena	6:30 pm	501-975-9000
29 Las Vegas	Halloween Havoc	MGM Grand Garden Arena	4:30 pm	702-474-4000
30 Irvine, CA	Nitro/Thunder	Bren Events Center	4:30 pm	949-824-5000

November

6 Chicago	Nitro/Thunder	United Center	6:30 pm	312-559-1212
10 London, England	Nitro	London Arena	7:30 pm	011-0207-538-1212
11 Newcastle, England		Newcastle Telewest Arena	7:30 pm	011-0191-260-2200
12 Manchester, England	Thunder	Manchester Evening News Arena	7:30 pm	011-0161-930-8000
13 Birmingham, England		Birmingham N.E.C. Arena	7:30 pm	011-4-0-121-767-4560
16 Oberhausen, Germany	German PPV	Oberhausen Arena	8 pm	011-49-208-82-00-20
20 Augusta, GA	Nitro/Thunder	Richmond County Civic Center	6:30 pm	706-724-2400
26 Milwaukee	Mayhem	U.S. Cellular Arena	6:30 pm	319-363-1888
27 Rockford, IL	Nitro/Thunder	MetroCentre	6:30 pm	815-968-5222

LASHING OUT!

By Lash LeRoux



Guess Who?

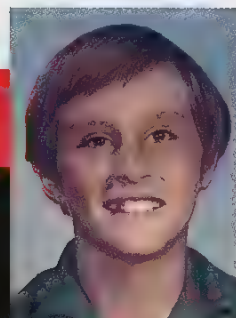
Do you recognize these two WCW superstars as children?

Beginning with this issue, we will award a free WCW MAGAZINE T-shirt and ballcap to a winner drawn from all correct responses to this contest each month.

A \$500 WCW merchandise gift pack will be awarded to a winner drawn from all correct responses over the course of a year.

To enter: e-mail answers along with your name, address and telephone number to wwwpics@turner.com or mail to Picture Contest, WCW MAGAZINE, 1 CNN Center, Box 105366, Atlanta, GA 30348-5366

Only one entry per person.



Slappy Holidays



Be the one with
all the stroke
this holiday season
when you give
WCW MAGAZINE

The Perfect Gift for any Wrestling Fan

Give the magazine for 12 months for only \$19.97!

Send a 1 year gift subscription to:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

From:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____



☐ Payment enclosed

☐ Bill me

WCW.COM

Foreign and Canadian orders are \$34.97 and must be prepaid. U.S. funds only. Prices include any applicable sales tax. 7011NA

The Perfect Gift for any Wrestling Fan

Give the magazine for 12 months for only \$19.97!

Send a 1 year gift subscription to:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

From:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____



☐ Payment enclosed

☐ Bill me

WCW.COM

Foreign and Canadian orders are \$34.97 and must be prepaid. U.S. funds only. Prices include any applicable sales tax. 7011NA

67% SAVINGS \$40 off the cover price

Send me 12 big issues of WCW MAGAZINE delivered to my door for
only \$19.97

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

☐ Payment enclosed

☐ Bill me



WCW.COM

Foreign and Canadian orders are \$34.97 and must be prepaid. U.S. funds only. Prices include any applicable sales tax. 6011NA

**BUSINESS REPLY MAIL**

FIRST-CLASS MAIL PERMIT NO 30 FLAGLER BEACH FL

POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY ADDRESSEE

WCW MAGAZINE

PO Box 421005

Palm Coast, FL 32142-8088

**BUSINESS REPLY MAIL**

FIRST-CLASS MAIL PERMIT NO 30 FLAGLER BEACH FL

POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY ADDRESSEE

WCW MAGAZINE

PO Box 421005

Palm Coast, FL 32142-8088

**BUSINESS REPLY MAIL**

FIRST-CLASS MAIL PERMIT NO 30 FLAGLER BEACH FL

POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY ADDRESSEE

WCW MAGAZINE

PO Box 421005

Palm Coast, FL 32142-8088

NO POSTAGE
NECESSARY
IF MAILED
IN THE
UNITED STATESNO POSTAGE
NECESSARY
IF MAILED
IN THE
UNITED STATESNO POSTAGE
NECESSARY
IF MAILED
IN THE
UNITED STATES**Give**

WCW Magazine
to any wrestling fan.
It's the gift they'll love
all year long.

**Subscribe now and
save a whopping
67% off
the cover price.**

Get

**12 action-packed
issues of
WCW Magazine
and
SAVE**

WCW
MAGAZINE

Issues Blowout



Issue 16



Issue 18



Issue 31



Issue 34



Issue 42



Issue 43



Issue 44



Issue 45



Issue 46



Issue 47



Issue 48



Issue 49



Issue 50



Issue 51



Issue 52



Issue 53



Issue 54



Issue 55



Issue 56



Issue 57



Issue 58



Issue 59



Issue 60



Issue 61



Issue 62



Issue 63



Issue 64



Issue 65



Spring 1999
SPECIAL ISSUE



Spring 1997
SPECIAL ISSUE

Order by mail

Please send me the following back issues at the cost of \$6 per issue plus a shipping and handling fee of \$5.95 per order.

- 3 ☐ 5 ☐ 6 ☐ 7 ☐ 9 ☐
 10 ☐ 11 ☐ 14 ☐ 16 ☐ 18 ☐
 31 ☐ 34 ☐ 42 ☐ 43 ☐ 44 ☐
 45 ☐ 46 ☐ 47 ☐ 48 ☐ 49 ☐
 50 ☐ 51 ☐ 52 ☐ 53 ☐ 54 ☐
 55 ☐ 56 ☐ 57 ☐ 58 ☐ 59 ☐
 60 ☐ 61 ☐ 62 ☐ 63 ☐ 64 ☐
 65 ☐ Spring 1999 ☐ Spring 1997 ☐

Method of payment

I enclose: (Checks payable to WCW MAGAZINE)

☐ Check ☐ Money Order

☐ American Express ☐ MasterCard

☐ Visa ☐ Discover/Novus

There are no billings.
All transactions in U.S. dollars.

Card no. _____

Exp. Date _____

Name on card _____

Signature _____

Customer service: 1-800-929-3072
8:30 a.m.-9:30 p.m. (ET) Monday through Friday
or e-mail wcws@turner.com

Allow 2 to 3 weeks for your order to arrive.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (____) _____

E-mail address _____

Orders with no phone number may be subject to delay in processing.

_____ Issues ordered
at \$6 per issue

\$5.95 shipping and handling

Georgia residents add
_____ 6 percent sales tax

\$_____ Total

Send all orders and correspondence to:

WCW MAGAZINE
PO Box 2437
Smyrna, GA 30081-2437 USA

MAG067M

By Kevin Eck

**Photography
by Scott Cunningham**

Kevin Nash and Scott Hall were the catalysts for a boom period in WCW and the sports-entertainment industry when they defected from the World Wrestling Federation in 1996 and formed the nWo. While Hall and WCW subsequently have had their share of ups and downs, Nash has had a consistent run as one of the company's top stars despite numerous switches from heel to babyface.

Nash has been a major player behind the scenes during his tenure in WCW. He was part of the booking team in 1999 and has gained a reputation for being outspoken. Nash recently has been campaigning for WCW to bring back Hall, his real-life friend, whose problems have been well documented.

In an interview with WCW MAGAZINE, Nash discussed the situation with Hall, his true feelings about Bill Goldberg, and his thoughts on being labeled by some as a disruptive force in the locker room.

Question: One of the frequently asked questions about WCW concerns the future of Scott Hall. How often do you speak to him and how is he doing mentally and physically?

Answer: He's good. I talk to him at least once a week, sometimes twice. I think he was cleared medically on September 1 and he'll be ready to come back shortly—either that or he'll be sitting home with full pay (*laughs*).

Q: Do you think we will see Hall again in WCW?

A: When somebody's not medically cleared, it's easy to say they're not coming back. But when somebody's medically cleared and the numbers are what they are and that person equals ratings, I think that sooner or later you have to use him. People ask: "How many chances can you give a guy?" Well, you've given him 75 already, what's 76?

Q: If Hall did not return to WCW, would we see the Outsiders together again somewhere else?

A: Absolutely. At a local strip joint probably (*laughs*).

Q: Let me rephrase the question. Will we ever see the Outsiders again as a tag team, in the ring?

A: Oh, that's a different story. Yeah. Our

contracts are up on the same day: January 1, 2002.

Q: How would you describe the bond between yourself and Hall?

A: There's nothing I don't talk to him about. I'm going through a divorce right now and he just went through one. It's like our lives have paralleled in a lot of ways. We've been friends for 12 years, and we've been traveling partners for the last eight years. Almost every day of our lives when we're on the road we're together. I've spent more time with Scott Hall the last eight years than I have with any other human being.

Q: What are your thoughts on the creative direction of WCW? Do you think WCW is headed in the right direction?

A: I think so. We've got good young talent here and we've got a place that's developing more every day. But it's going to take time to teach these guys the specifics of the business and for them to mature. Now it's just putting people in the right positions. We've been jockeying guys around. Some guys are heel one month and babyface the next. You've got Goldberg, who is our franchise babyface, and we tried to turn him heel. We thought it might work, but there was resistance on his behalf because he didn't know what direction

he was going in, and it would have been an uphill climb to turn him heel. I think we have everybody in the right spot now. I feel I'm better as a heel than I am as a babyface. You've got Scott Steiner and Jeff Jarrett with me, so the three of us make a good heel combination. You put the Natural Born Thrillers with us to give them the rub, so that's a pretty good heel foundation. I always believed when a territory is down you have to book heat. You have to build your heels first and then every babyface comes up after that. We've got Booker T., Goldberg, Sting—who has a lot of good years left—so you've got three really good babyfaces. You just need a couple of these young guys to step it up in the next 16 months. The thing is, I think these corporate people want this thing to turn around in 90 days, and this isn't a business that turns around in 90 days. To me it's a soap opera. If you've been watching "Days of Our Lives" for a year and somebody says "Santa Barbara" is good, it doesn't matter; you're just not going to start watching "Santa Barbara." If that other show gets stale, then you might look, but right now the WWF is keeping things pretty fresh and it's hard to get that viewership back. When they did the Super Bowl ad, they created a whole new audience. Probably a 1.5 to a 2.0 rating of new people tuned in to see what this was that they saw during

as the future stars of WCW?

A: There are guys, like Sean O'Haire, who have a certain quality—they have a look. I think Chuck Palumbo will do well. When I had a hand in the creative end and I went to the Power Plant to watch some of those guys work, there wasn't one or two guys, there were like nine or 10 guys that were pretty good. The Wall is another guy. I don't know if I like the gimmick he's in right now, but he knows how to sell like a big man, his stuff looks good; I think he's a guy that you can make money with.

Q: Is there anything you think WCW failed to do while it was beating the WWF in the Monday ratings for 83 straight weeks?

A: The WWF did such a good job branding their name. If two baseball players got in a shoving match, the guy on SportsCenter would say it was from a scene reminiscent of a WWF event; it was never a WCW event. For a while the nWo brand was probably the strongest brand in the business. I think what they should have done, and Scott and I lobbied adamantly for this, was that inevitably the nWo would take over WCW and we would re-brand this company the nWo. So now it would be the nWo, WWF and ECW. When Scott and I left New York and came here, there was

was an astronaut. The storyline of the nWo was something the 25- to 35-year-old demographic that reads about corporate takeovers could relate to.

Q: You just mentioned reality-based programming. It seems as if Vince Russo has taken that concept and expanded on it. Do you think pitting wrestlers against each other who have real-life heat between them makes for a better product?

A: Somebody once told me that I'll get over when I become myself because people like me in the locker room. If you come to work and you're the same guy that goes out in front of the people, that's not a stretch. If you have guys that actually have some heat between each other, as long as they stay professional and as long as they don't cross any boundaries, I think it makes for better TV because the emotion shows.

Q: Is there any legitimate heat between yourself and Goldberg?

A: There's always some heat between everybody. With Bill—hell, anybody who has been around Bill Goldberg for more than three minutes knows that he's a nice guy. This business makes assholes out of all of us at one time or another. He was in a position that he wasn't happy with and wasn't

"People ask: 'How many chances can you give Scott Hall?' Well, you've given him 75 already, what's 76?"



the Super Bowl. Those people now have been brought into sports entertainment by the WWF and it's going to be hard for us to grab those people because they're brand loyal to them.

Q: You said that WCW has some good, young talent. Who do you see

an explosion. It was the perfect situation: two top guys came into a territory, which had never happened before; Hulk Hogan turned heel, the nWo was born and it turned wrestling into more reality-based programming. Before, Vince McMahon did a lot of gimmicks: one guy was a pig farmer, one guy was a dentist, one guy

comfortable with. The heat wasn't between Bill and I. The heat was between the situation Bill was in and everything else. I cut a shoot promo as they say, but it wasn't a shoot promo because one of the first things I said was: "I don't like Bill Goldberg." Well, that's not true.



"I don't believe in undermining the guy that's writing the show, but if I don't agree with something, I'll lobby my idea if I think I have a better idea or a better way to end a match."

Q: You made a reference on television a couple months ago to a match several years ago in Montreal in which you acted unprofessionally. For those who don't know, can you talk about what happened in that match, which was with Carl Oulette?

A: It was a point in his career when he was just young. Guys got in his head and got him all geeked up. It was his hometown and he didn't do business. But I saw him in Canada recently and we talked. There's no animosity toward him. It was a mistake he made and I definitely made a mistake in not being professional in the ring. It isn't anything I'm proud of. I brought it up only because it fit in the storyline that we had at that time with Goldberg and we were trying to sell tickets. There's absolutely no heat between Carl and I. It was just an unfortunate instance that happened, and he learned from it and I learned from it and we've gone on.

Q: You said you feel you're better as a heel than a babyface. Isn't your situation similar to Goldberg's in that people would rather cheer than jeer you?

A: I've been back and forth so many times with this company. If you're over and you're a heel, yeah, you're going to have people that cheer you. People have said that when Scott and I came in to WCW that we weren't heels, that we were babyfaces. I said, "Well, how were we babyfaces when we were giving guys comebacks? The guy making the comeback is the babyface. The guy flopping

around and getting his butt beat at the end of the match is the heel. So how were we not heels?" And they said, "Well, the fans liked you." The fans are going to like who they're going to like. Storyline is important as to how you're perceived. If you go out there and work like a heel and act like a heel, I think out of respect even the people that would want to cheer you will boo you because they know that they're supposed to boo you.

Q: When you had a hand in booking in 1999, did you enjoy it or was it a headache dealing with the politics and egos?

A: I helped for 11 months and during that time there were no mass coups or 18 guys wanting out of their contracts, so I didn't have any headaches. They might have been saying it behind my back, but nobody said anything to my face. One advantage I had in that position is that when you're the biggest guy in the locker room, you kind of get a little respect (*laughs*).

Q: We've heard a lot lately about wrestlers such as Hulk Hogan having creative control clauses. How much control or input do you have in your storylines?

A: Well, No. 1, it's live TV. So they can tell you whatever they want in the back, but when it's live TV, you can pretty much do whatever you want once you get out there. The old saying among the boys is that it's easier to ask for forgiveness than it is to ask for permission. I don't believe in undermining the guy that's writing the

show, but if I don't agree with something, I'll lobby my idea if I think I have a better idea or a better way to end a match. You do this for 10-12 years, you may have been in the same predicament 30 times, so you can say this is what worked this time, how about if we do it this way. What booking is to me nowadays is a blueprint. I'm having a house designed down in Florida right now and I have an architect. He does some things and then I look at it and make changes. He's the architect and he'll tell you no, there's certain things you can't change. Vince Russo is the architect, but it's our match, and Vince is smart enough to give the guys he knows have some insight that leeway to express how we feel. But if Vince wants it a certain way, we do it the way Vince wants it.

Q: You seem to be one of a minority of wrestlers who has some clout backstage. When you break into the business, obviously you have no power. How did you get to the position you're in now?

A: It's like anything else. If you're driving a car and the guy in the backseat tells you to take a left and you do it and he ends up being right, and the next time you get lost and he has a suggestion and he's right again, the more you believe in him. Hulk Hogan, for example, is a guy who's always drawn money. He knows how to get over and how to take care of his character. Hulk goes on track record, and I think I go on track record. My record is nowhere near as impressive or as long as Hulk's is, but I

sell merchandise and I've become a commodity that's valuable to the company. The more valuable that you become to the company, the more voice you get and the more power you get. Plus, I think it's your personality. I'm an aggressive personality. I'm very outspoken and I have been my whole life. It's gotten me in a lot of trouble, but that's just who I am. If I think something is not right, even the treatment of the boys where it may not affect me as much as some of the underneath guys, I feel that because I have a voice I have to speak for the other guys because they don't have a voice. Corporately you're looked at as a locker-room lawyer and you're trouble. There was talk of cutting some guys around here and I know my name came up, but it was like: "He's been good lately, so we won't try to get rid of him." It's not that at all; it's just that they haven't done anything to upset me. It's not that I've been a good boy; it's just that maybe they are running things a little bit better.

Q: Do you pay attention to the negative criticism directed at you in the dirt sheets and on the Internet?

A: I really don't give a damn if a bunch of smart marks don't like me. There's not one of them that could go out on live TV and call a match, so how do they deem who is a good worker and who's not a good worker? To me, a good worker is a guy you can bring into a building, give him a finish and not let him see his opponent the rest of the night and do a 12- to 15-minute TV match. That to me is somebody that can

work, not somebody that can sit in the back for six hours and choreograph a dance routine with another guy. That to me is not a good worker; that's somebody who has a great memory. A good worker can go out there, listen to the people and be able to change things on the fly; when stuff gets screwed up he is able to recover so that people don't know that the spot was screwed up. I see guys who are deemed great workers that will send a guy off for a high spot right after they just got done working his leg. You're supposed to go out there and give a performance that looks like you're killing each other without getting hurt. If you take a guy on top of a ladder and drop him through a table,

that's not a work. It's a real table, it's a real ladder and you're going through it. This business is supposed to be a work. If I hit you in the ring and it looks like I kill you and I don't touch you, that's being able to work. If I hit you in the ring and I potato you and it looks good on TV, you sure as hell wouldn't want to work with me 10 nights in a row.

Q: Are you still a fan of the business?

A: Absolutely. You get jaded and callous to it, but there's not a better feeling on earth than going out there with one of your buddies and getting the reactions you're trying to get from the crowd. I don't think Booker and I had ever worked singles matches together until

Word Association With Kevin Nash

Scott Hall: My brother, but not by blood.

Booker T.: The real deal.

Triple H: I've never gotten closer with any human being faster. He's very much like me.

Shawn Michaels: Greatest pure worker the sport ever had.

Eric Bischoff: A man's man; good boss; a guy that understood the boys.

Bret Hart: The last wrestler.

Vince McMahon: Genius.

Vince Russo: If McMahon is a genius, Russo is a mad scientist.



"There was talk of cutting some guys around here and I know my name came up, but it was like: 'He's been good lately, so we won't try to get rid of him.'"

recently, and on two straight nights we basically went to the ring with just the finish. We went out there and just called it back and forth to each other. When you do that with a guy, you get confidence in each other; neither one of us potato each other, so it's a pleasure to work with the person. Now if I have a 10-day loop with Booker, it would be like basically having 10 days off. It's going to be easy for me to perform because I'm out there with someone who knows what they're doing.

Q: If your 4-year-old son, Tristan, wanted to pursue a career in professional wrestling, what would you say to him?

A: If my son came to me when he was

father got a divorce was because of this. He'll know the dark side, the disadvantages of this lifestyle as well as the advantages.

Q: With your hectic schedule and impending divorce, how difficult is it to spend time with your son?

A: I read an article not too long ago where they did a survey of 9-to-5 business guys and how many hours a day they actually spend with their kids, and it was something like 15 minutes a day. I may be home three or four days a week, but there's one day that I spend a whole day with him where he stays with me and sleeps over. The other days I usually see him from when he gets out of school at 2:30 until he goes to bed

Q: How many years do you want to continue wrestling?

A: If I hit the lotto tomorrow you wouldn't see me (*laughs*), but this is what I do for a living. I can't sing and I can't dance. People always talk about it maybe being time to act or do something else. I watch a lot of movies, and I can't see that there's going to be a lot of roles for a 6'10" guy. I was up for the role of Saber Tooth in "The X-Men." I also was offered a role in "Mortal Kombat." But the pay is so low-scale compared to what we get. You can make me the fry-boy at McDonald's tomorrow for \$2.5 million and I'll do it. I work for money.

Q: After your in-ring career is over, do you think you will stay in the busi-

"I really don't give a damn if a bunch of smart marks don't like me. There's not one of them that could go out on live TV and call a match, so how do they deem who is a good worker and who's not a good worker?"



older and wanted to be a wrestler, then I'd definitely get back in so I could book and I could push him (*laughs*). I just bought my wife a new home, and I look at the things wrestling has given me. Anybody in my family that's ever had financial problems has always been able to come to me for money. Wrestling has provided that for me and my family, so if my son determined this is something he wanted to do, that's OK. If he came to me and said he wanted to be a figure skater, he could be a figure skater. If he wants to be a wrestler, God bless him. I'd be proud that my son would want to follow in my footsteps, but I'd also be blunt and tell him what this life is about. He'll know one of the main reasons his mother and

around 9. I spend a lot of hands-on time with my son. My wife and I have stayed good friends. It's not a bitter divorce. My relationship with her hasn't changed. The only difference is I don't sleep in the house anymore.

Q: You've gained a reputation as a guy who likes to play hard outside the ring. Are you mellowing at all?

A: I just had my 41st birthday party and I was out with a bunch of 25-year-old guys until 7 in the morning the night before a pay-per-view, so I don't think so. I tried to slow down. I'm thinking I really shouldn't be doing to my body at 41 the same things I did to it at 20, but I guess when you have a certain lifestyle, it's just kind of your lifestyle.

ness, perhaps on the creative side?

A: I like the creative side. Creatively, I'd like to be involved and have a voice, but as far as having the pressure week in and week out of having to come up with stuff, I don't know. I've sat there so many times with six guys in a room for 45 minutes just looking at each other and going, "Man, I can't believe that nobody has an idea," knowing that you're under the wire, knowing that you have to have something on paper by Wednesday because travel has to get tickets to the guys. Booking is a hard aspect of the business. I would like to maybe help direct some stuff in the back or maybe work my way into the truck. Who knows? Maybe I won't do anything. Maybe I'll just go sit some place and rot. ♦

Booker T

HAIR Booker T. does not have a Mohawk, so obviously he's no relation to Mr. T. Thank God.

WEAR Booker T. uses his hands for many things, but when he uses them to raise the roof, it brings fans to their feet. "I watched all the wrestlers in the 1980s with their tighties, sunglasses and hats, and while I do respect tradition, I like to keep up with the times," Booker says. "I'm 35, but I feel like a kid. I know what the young crowd is going to dig on. I try to be a regular guy who's going to fight tooth and nail and take it to the limit until the better man comes out on top. I think the people feel like I'm one of them. I'm pretty much the same guy in and out of the ring."

ENDURANCE To use backstage parlance, Booker T. can go. His superior cardiovascular conditioning enables him to compete in matches of any length. Booker T. once wrestled for 37 consecutive minutes as he won the TV title by defeating Perry Saturn and Rick Martel in succession. "The people know they're going to get a show from me, not just a five-minute match," Booker says.

INJURY Booker T. has been slowed by an injured right knee that requires him to wear a brace. "That knee is about 90 percent now," Booker says. "Psychosis hurt it originally when he hit it with a baseball slide dropkick. My leg locked, the cartilage tore, and I was out four months. I came back, hurt it again, then came back after a month of intense therapy. Then, when I was leapfrogging Goldberg, he hit the quad right above the knee, so it's a little shaky now. If I hurt it bad, at least it will be in the middle of the ring doing what I love."

POWER Booker T. delivers one of the most impressive missile dropkicks in wrestling history. No other man Booker's size outside of the NBA has gotten that high in the air. "I'm not afraid of heights," says Booker, laughing. "I have good balance, too. I started doing it pretty much out of the clear blue sky. I was wrestling Perry Saturn, I blocked a suplex attempt, knocked him down, and just decided to go up top. I watched it later, and it looked good."

SCARS Booker T. rarely is put on his back, yet there's a lot of history concerning his back. First and foremost, Booker T. does his famed "spinaroonie" rotating on his back. "That comes from my break dancing days," Booker says. "We had a group in Houston called the Remote Controls, and I was the leader and choreographer. I used to go to MacGregor Park and MLK Boulevard with my cardboard and my boombox and we would battle to see who was best." Booker T. has a six-inch scar on his back from a motorcycle accident. "I was speeding a little bit, a car brushed me, and I was airborne," he says.

ALTER EGO The Booker T. character has won the world title. But in some ways, Booker's heart is still with his alter ego, G.I. Bro. "I loved being G.I. Bro," Booker says. "I started out as G.I. Bro, and I'm glad G.I. Bro finally got to the big scene with WCW." G.I. Bro made his debut around the time of the USA's involvement in Desert Storm. "Yeah, Sgt. Slaughter was on his way out and I felt G.I. Bro could step right in," Booker says. "I'm very fond of the character, and I had a lot of fun with it."

WORLD CHAMPION Booker T. has worn various title belts, none more proudly than the world title he won at this year's Bash at the Beach. "It was a turbulent day because of everything that happened before, but when I won, that was a genuine moment," Booker says. "I had thought about it my whole career, but I never dreamed it would happen, especially so soon. When I got the belt and the fans were so excited, well, I think that answered any questions about whether or not Booker T. should be a top player."

WEIGHT Booker T. is heavyweight size, but his legs allow him to move like a cruiserweight. "It's all natural," Booker says. "I didn't play sports. I was a drum major in high school, and I liked drama. But I always was blessed with God-given agility and athletic ability." Booker enjoyed being a drum major. "In a way, it was like being the world champion," he says. "Everyone looks to you for direction, and you definitely don't want to drop the baton."



Portraying a villain who is both hated and entertaining is an acquired skill—and sometimes a perilous role

By Kevin Eck

The Face of a Heel

Today Funk has three knives in his office that once were in the hands of outraged wrestling fans determined to do him bodily harm. One of the weapons actually hit the target—Funk was stabbed in the neck by a fan two decades ago.

Although he has played the role of fan favorite in recent years, Funk has spent most of his 35-year career as one of professional wrestling's most infamous heels. The knives are like trophies to him, acknowledgements of a job well done. "It's a wonderful compliment," Funk says. "It is gratifying to get that kind of heat."

Although Funk's view may seem extreme, his

perspective is understandable. He is good at being bad that he was able to blur the line between fantasy and reality for some—and he suffered the consequences.


Such is the life of a wrestling bad guy. They get paid to elicit the raw emotion of hatred through their dastardly acts, snarling faces and venomous diatribes. And the truly great heels not only make fans hate them, they make it entertaining for the people to love to hate them.

"The heel is only as hated as much as the fan favorite is loved and vice versa, so we both have a role to play," says "The Franchise" Shane Douglas, a heel for the past seven years in WCW, the World Wrestling Federation and Extreme Championship Wrestling. "I try to maxi-

JOEY GUNNING/RAW/WWF; ALLEN KEES/WWF

NOVEMBER 2000 39

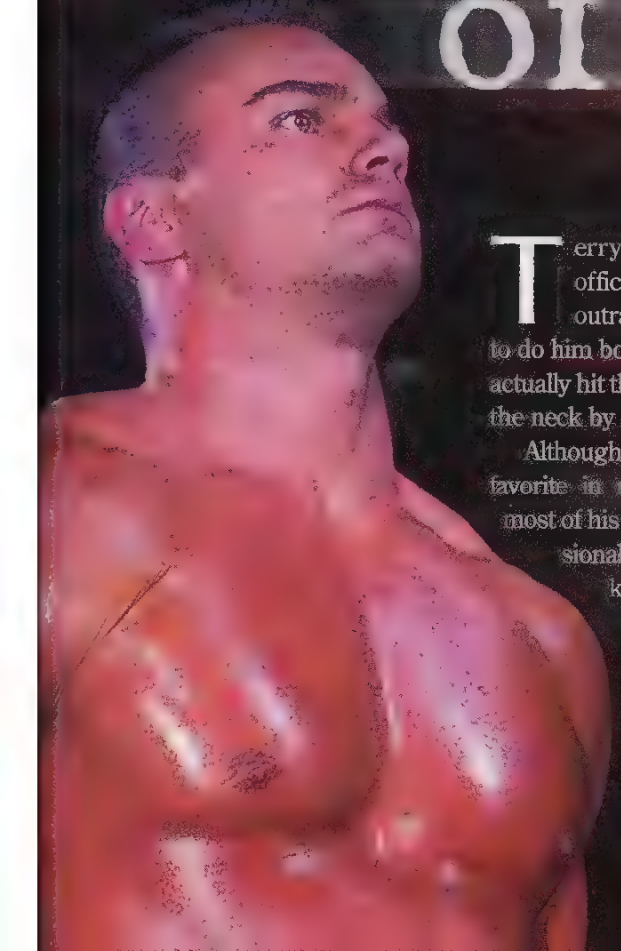




Portraying a villain who is both hated and entertaining is an acquired skill—and sometimes a perilous role

By Kevin Eck

The Face of a Heel



Terry Funk has three knives in his office that once were in the hands of outraged wrestling fans determined to do him bodily harm. One of the weapons actually hit the target—Funk was stabbed in the neck by a fan two decades ago.

Although he has played the role of fan favorite in recent years, Funk has spent most of his 35-year career as one of professional wrestling's vilest villains. The knives are like trophies to him, acknowledgements of a job well done. "It's a wonderful compliment," Funk says. "It is gratifying to get that kind of heat."

Although Funk's view may seem extreme, his

satisfaction is understandable. He was so good at being bad that he was able to blur the line between fantasy and reality for some—and he suffered the consequences.

Such is the life of a wrestling bad guy. They get paid to elicit the raw emotion of hatred through their dastardly acts, snarling faces and venomous diatribes. And the truly great heels not only make fans hate them, they make it entertaining for the people to love to hate them.

"The heel is only as hated as much as the fan favorite is loved and vice versa, so we both have a role to play," says "The Franchise" Shane Douglas, a heel for the past seven years in WCW, the World Wrestling Federation and Extreme Championship Wrestling. "I try to maxi-

mize pissing off the crowd to get them cheering the fan favorite and throwing stuff, spitting and yelling at me. I want to make sure when the people walk out at the end of the night they say, 'That damn Shane Douglas is an SOB,' but if you listen to the way they say it, you can tell they were entertained."

Every heel has his own array of tricks to get heat from the crowd. Some villains are menacing, some cowardly and others are simply the dirtiest players in the game. "Big Poppa Pump" Scott Steiner, for example, intimidates and infuriates fans with his freakish muscles, raging intensity and acts of violence. Ric Flair, conversely, was a classic cocky heel. He could get heat simply by strutting around the ring.

Lance Storm, currently one of WCW's top heels, says the key is to take something that has a basis in truth and exaggerate it. "If you just go out there and make up stuff that they

don't believe, it's not going to work," he says. "It's like the Canadian deal with me. I'm not an American hater or anything, but I am Canadian and it's something that I do believe in. I've always been a strong wrestler, so you take a bit of truth and you exaggerate that. I'm bragging about being a good wrestler, and the fans watch and they're like, 'Well, yeah, he is,' which they hate because I'm sort of right. But you're lying enough that they can get on you for that as well."

In a similar vein, Douglas finds that real-life situations help him get in character. "If you have a tiff with your wife before you left home or the rental car wasn't there when you wanted to get it, all the little stressful things in life, you can blow off a lot of steam out there," he says. "It's very cathartic for me. Everybody has it in them, but they have to keep it restrained. 'The Franchise' doesn't worry about that. He says what he thinks and does what he wants."

Transforming into the despicable "Franchise" doesn't come easy for Douglas. He has to be in the proper setting and in the right frame of mind. "My wife once said to me, 'Do that Franchise voice,' and I couldn't do it," he says. "It's not something I can turn on and off like a light switch. 'The Franchise' has to be in his gear, in the arena and in his mind-set for the match in front of the audience."

Funk, on the other hand, is more of a method actor. When he was "heeling," he was in character before, during and after his match. "The suspension of disbelief starts from the moment you come to the arena," Funk says. "After the match, I'd come back to the dressing room and it would take me a good 45 minutes to come back down. It's very difficult when you see some kid outside the arena and you want to be nice to him, but you can't. You have to be an ass 100 percent of the time. Even if it's just three or four people that you sign autographs for, those three or four people will have a different opinion of you, and that's defeating your purpose."

While Steiner may be more approachable outside the arena than Funk was, "Big Poppa Pump" is unquestionably wrestling's most dangerous man once the show starts. He is likely to say—or do—anything in response to jeering fans. Moreover, Steiner seems to thrive on the negative energy of the crowd, and he likes to make his war with fans personal. When a fan heckles him, Steiner acknowledges that indi-

Flair relishes his role as the dirtiest player in the game.





Security took a gun from a irate fan after Funk's attack on a babyface Flair in 1989.

vidual by jumping out of the ring and confronting him. That, in turn, gets him more heat from the rest of the crowd.

"I really don't give a damn what the fans think," Steiner says. "The fans know I hate them. Whoever gets on me, I'll get in their face. All you have to do is back up what you're talking."

Singling out specific fans is a standard heel tactic, but sometimes it can backfire. "There's a fine line there," Douglas says. "The Dudley Boyz would make it personal when they were in ECW, and they would get so strong doing it that they would almost turn themselves babyface and get the fans cheering them. It's like the comedian who takes the guy in the audience that's being a pain and cuts him off with a tongue-lashing."

As Funk will attest, however, fans sometimes get so wrapped up in what they're seeing that they act out in a violent manner—it's what's known in the industry as "white heat." Says Funk: "I've had people jump in the ring numerous times on me. (WCW security director) Doug Dellinger once took a gun away from a guy in 1989 when I was wrestling Flair. In Corpus Christi, Texas, and Houston, they

would have to escort me to the ring and sometimes the match wouldn't even take place because a riot would break out. Once I left an arena with my wife, and a pickup truck came up behind us and started ramming our car on a mountain road."

Funk was never one to back down from a fight, especially in a bar. "Back then, you had to prove yourself because you were protecting the profession," he says. "One night at a bar in Amarillo, Texas, this big guy recognizes me and says he wants to shake my hand. I put out my hand to shake it and he started squeezing it. He was a strong guy and it hurt like hell."

"I just slapped him and the guy went down. I tried to get him back up because I was still upset with him, but he wrapped his arms around the base of a table and I couldn't get him up. So I grabbed him by the seat of his pants and ripped his pants off—and his underwear came off, too. I looked down and there was his big, fat ass, and I didn't know what else to do so I bit a chunk out of his ass. He sued me for that and we settled out of court. It was the most expensive piece of ass I ever had."

Flair also has been involved in some hairy situations, especially in the 1980s when he was

Storm's anti-American stance has gotten a rise out of WCW fans.



defending the world heavyweight title in some far-flung places outside the United States. "I was in Santo Domingo in the Dominican Republic wrestling against a local hero named Jack Veneno. They had a 10,000-seat building with 40,000 people trying to get in," Flair says. "He had me in a sleeperhold when time expired, and when they rang the bell, people thought he had won the match, but it was actually a draw. When they found out he didn't win, it got real bad. They literally tore down the building. They broke the windows and tore up the bleachers. It was scary because there was nowhere to go. They kept me and Roddy Piper, who was the only other white guy on the island, in the building until 2 in the morning."

As wrestling has evolved into sports entertainment and the scripted nature of the business isn't as shrouded in secrecy, instances of "white heat" have occurred with less frequency. "I've only been a heel the last couple of years, but in that time frame, wrestling fans have become more knowledgeable," Storm says. "They get really hot on you in the building, but once you leave the building, I think most fans can separate it."

However, there still are occasions when fans become rabid over heelish behavior. Four years ago in ECW, Douglas saw "white heat" firsthand in an angle with Gary Wolfe of the Pit Bulls. Wolfe had suffered a broken neck and was appearing on television in a halo. Cad that he is, "The Franchise" attacked Wolfe while he was in the halo.

"The ECW fans are the so-called smartest fans in the world. They've seen everything. They're Internet savvy and they read all the sheets. But they got so hot, a riot took place in the arena," Douglas says. "If you present it the right way and you build the heat the right way, the fans will buy it. Just like Virginia wants to believe in Santa Claus, the fans want to believe that 'The Franchise' is an ass and the babyface is the greatest guy in the world."

Douglas' life changed significantly after that angle. "My tires got slashed and I had to be snuck in and out of buildings for several months because the fans were so incensed at what they had seen," he says. "My wife and I were getting phone calls in the middle of the night from people threatening to kill me and rape her. That's the harrowing side to playing 'The Franchise,' because you don't want to put

Security can't stop Steiner's anger toward fans; they can only hope to contain it.





Douglas sometimes uses his "Franchise" character to relieve real-life stress.

your wife under that kind of stress. But it tells you that you're a success because fans feel compelled enough to call your house and leave a death threat. They're obviously buying the character enough that they're going to pay for a ticket to see him get his ass kicked."

Although not life-threatening, there are other repercussions for those who portray the heavy. Heels typically sell less merchandise than their babyface counterparts and are sometimes regarded as enhancement for the hero.

For those reasons, some wrestlers are reluctant to embrace their heel side. "I've seen a few people that are supposed to be heels," Douglas says, "but they're worried about their T-shirt sales or their video sales, so they don't go out and get heat like they're supposed to."

Others like Flair love to be loathed. But as Flair got older and his status as one of the all-time great wrestlers was cemented, it became increasingly difficult to keep him as a heel

because fans did not want to boo him. It's something that Flair has struggled with. "It's a lot easier for me to work in the role of wrestling against good guys. I feel in that aspect that I do not have a peer," he says. "Being perceived as a fan favorite is not a role that I'm comfortable with. I am, however, comfortable with the level of respect that I get."

Douglas, whose heel persona is rooted in his real-life dislike of Flair, ironically shares his adversary's fondness for being bad. "Historically, the heel leads the match," Douglas says. "So if a match gets over and you're the architect of that match, that's a pretty cool feeling."

"The ability to get an audience and stand them up, sit them down, piss them off and get them cheering the other guy, that's a pretty powerful rush. Because you know that underneath all that emotion, the fans are being entertained. And that's what it's all about." ♦





FALL BRAWL

W C W Championship Wrestling

World Heavyweight Title Match
Booker T. pinned champion Kevin Nash

Scott Steiner def. Goldberg

Bunkhouse Brawl
Mike Awesome pinned Jeff Jarrett

Three-Way Dance
Sting def. Great Muta and Vampiro

U.S. Title Match
Champion Lance Storm
def. General Rection

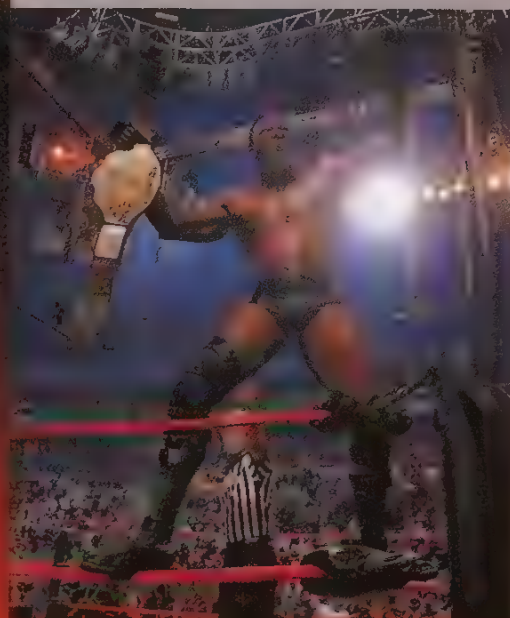
Pittsburgh Plunge Scaffold Match
"The Franchise" Shane Douglas and Torrie
Wilson def. Kidman and Madusa

Elimination Match
Natural Born Thrillers vs. Filthy Animals,
Big Vito and Paul Orndorff ruled no-contest

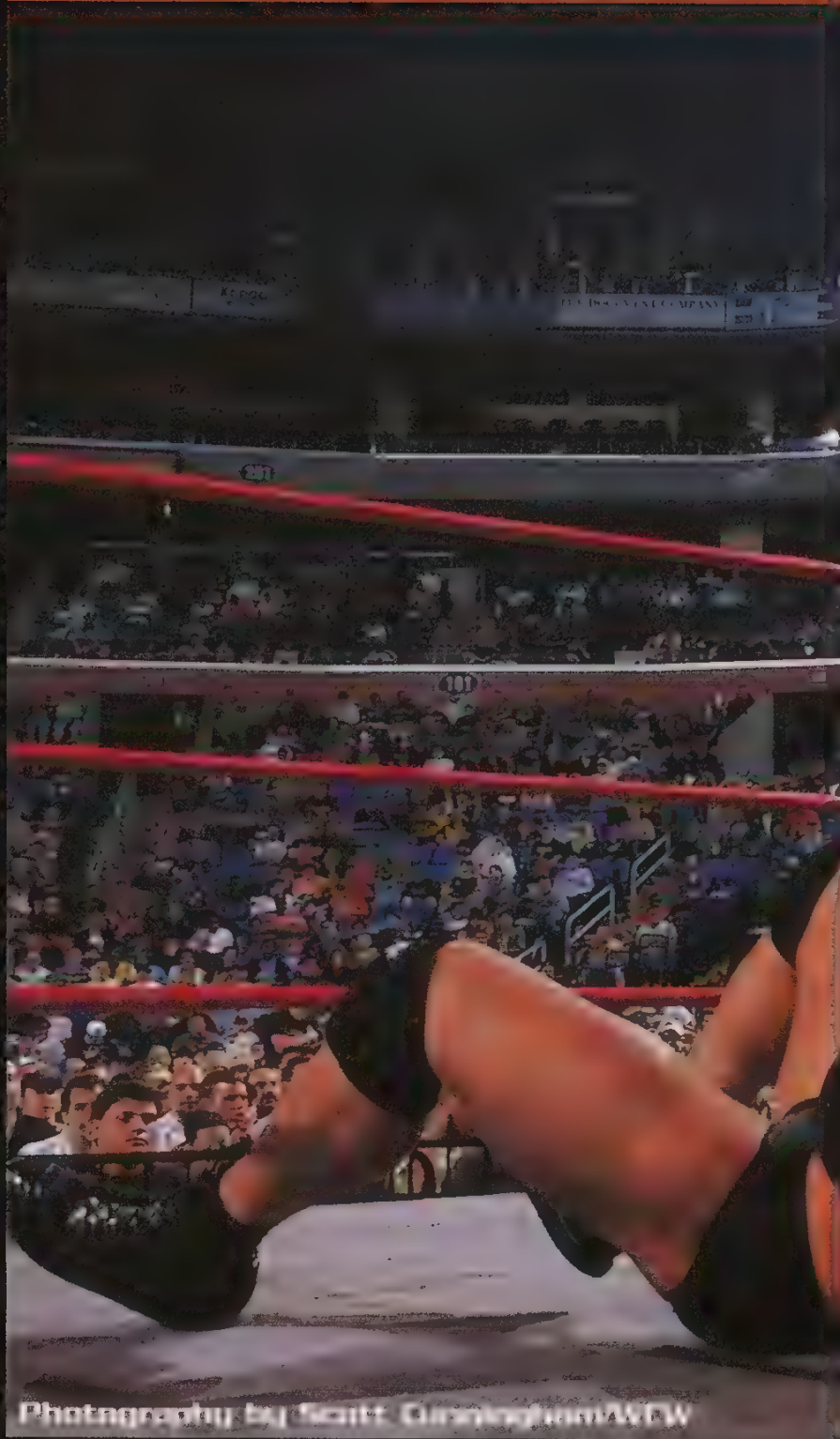
First Blood Chain Match
Harris Brothers def. Kronik

Cruiserweight Title Match
Champion "Prime Time" Elix Skipper
pinned Kwee-Wee

Misfits In Action def. 3 Count



Pay-Per-View Buffalo, New York • September 17, 2000



Photography by Scott Cunningham/WCW

After supposedly undergoing brain surgery a week before Fall Brawl, Vince Russo miraculously returned and continued to be a thorn in the side of Bill Goldberg. Russo's interference tipped the scales in favor of Scott Steiner, who scored the biggest win of his career by defeating Goldberg in an intense, brutal battle.

In another violent display, Booker T. left Kevin Nash beaten and bloodied to win their steel cage match and capture the WCW world title for a second time.

The night took a surreal turn when American patriot "Hacksaw" Jim Duggan turned his back on the United States and joined Lance Storm's Team Canada, costing



General Rection the U.S. title in the process.

In what appeared to be the final chapter in Sting's feud with the Dark Carnival, Sting defeated Vampiro and the Great Muta in a three-way dance. After the match, Sting surprisingly saved long-time rival Muta from an attack by Vampiro and the Insane Clown Posse.

The situation between "The

Franchise" Shane Douglas and Kidman escalated—to 20 feet in the air. Douglas and Torrie Wilson, Kidman's former flame, battled Kidman and Madusa in a Pittsburgh Plunge Scaffold Match. In a sickening display of sadism, Douglas sent Madusa and Kidman crashing to the floor from the scaffold.

There were some tense moments

during the elimination match that pitted the Natural Born Thrillers against the Filthy Animals, Big Vito and wrestling legend "Mr. Wonderful" Paul Orndorff. The match was stopped when Orndorff lay motionless in the ring after delivering a piledriver. Orndorff was removed on a stretcher by medical technicians, and it was reported later that he had suffered a "stinger."

World Heavyweight Title Match

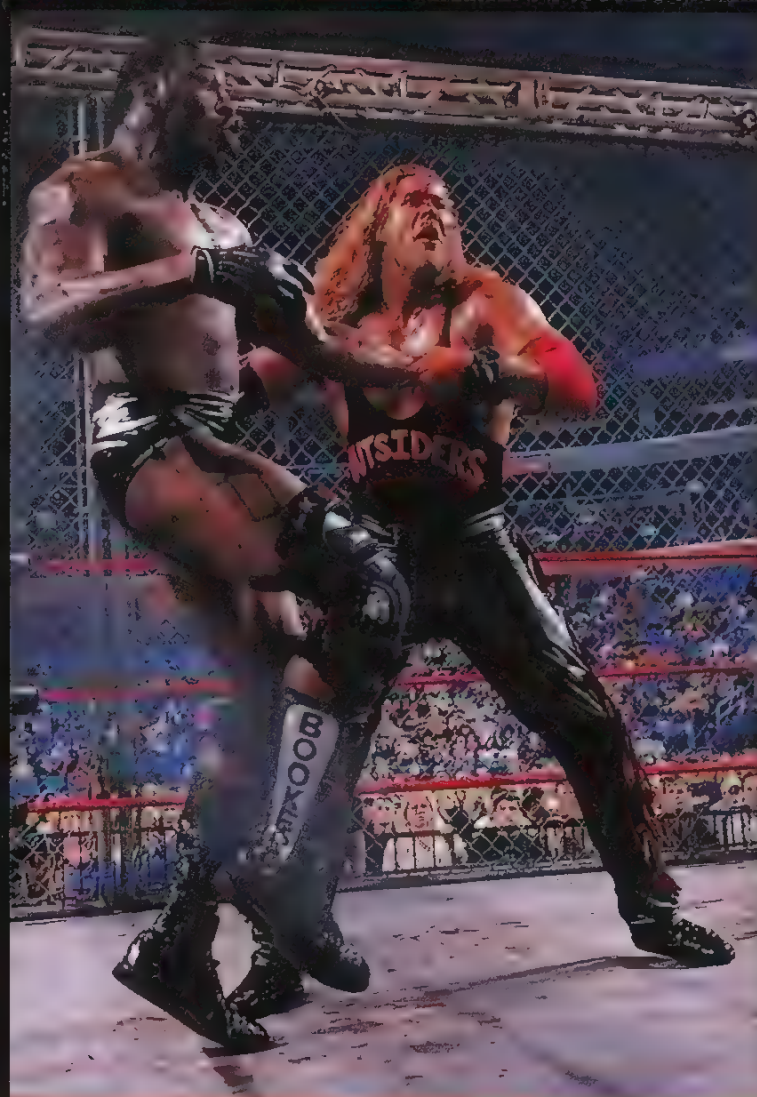
Booker T. was looking to reclaim the title he lost to Kevin Nash—with help from referee Jeff Jarrett—three weeks prior to Fall Brawl. To ensure Nash's partners in crime would not interfere this time, the bout was contested in a steel cage.

Nash used his size advantage to dominate early, rocking the challenger with a series of elbows to the head. "Big Sexy" then tore off the top turnbuckle and attempted to ram Booker's head into the exposed steel. Booker, however, reversed the move and drew blood. Booker then landed a missile dropkick off the top rope and got a near fall. Nash rebounded by kicking Booker in the face, then Nash set up Booker for a Jackknife Powerbomb. Booker, however, slipped out of Nash's grasp, hit the Book End, pinned Nash and reclaimed the title.

Goldberg vs. Scott Steiner

The feud between WCW's most powerful superstars became extremely personal in the weeks leading to Fall Brawl. First, Goldberg jack-hammered Steiner's freak, Midajah, through a table. Steiner responded by kidnapping Goldberg's girlfriend, Beth, and putting her in a Steiner Recliner. Because of the volatile nature of the two rivals, this was a no-disqualification match.

Midway through the match, Midajah ran to ringside with a lead pipe in her hand. With Goldberg distracted, Steiner attacked him with a steel chair and busted open Goldberg's head. As Goldberg rebounded





and prepared to spear Steiner, Vince Russo appeared and attacked Goldberg with a bat. Steiner then put Goldberg through a table outside the ring before rolling him into the ring and locking on a Steiner Recliner. Goldberg powered out of the hold, but Russo and Midajah double-teamed Goldberg with foreign objects, allowing Steiner to again apply a Steiner Recliner. Amazingly, Goldberg escaped the hold again. In the end, however, Steiner clobbered Goldberg with a lead pipe and an unconscious Goldberg succumbed to a third Steiner Recliner.

Bunkhouse Brawl

Jeff Jarrett interrupted "That '70s Guy" Mike Awesome's Lava Lamp Lounge segment and smashed him over the head with a guitar on two occasions prior to Fall Brawl. The rules for this match were simple: anything goes and any object could be used. Jarrett wore a Tennessee Titans jersey and verbally abused the Buffalo crowd with disparaging remarks about the Buffalo Bills. Awesome took the early advantage, much to the delight of the crowd, which included several members of the Bills at ringside.

After both men had been sent through



tables, Awesome threw Jarrett onto a table wrapped in barbed wire. The Bills players got onto the ring apron and surrounded Jarrett. Awesome landed an Awesome Bomb for a two-count, but Jarrett rebounded and grabbed his guitar. Former sitcom

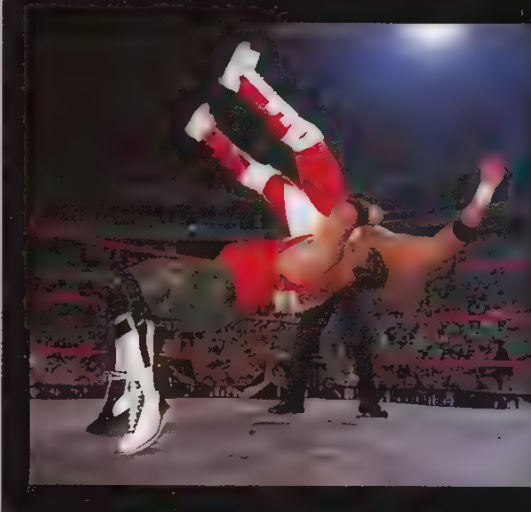


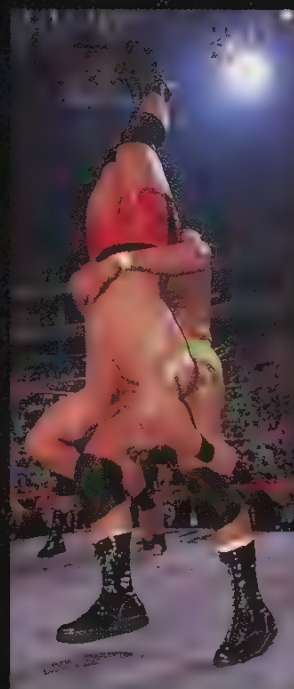
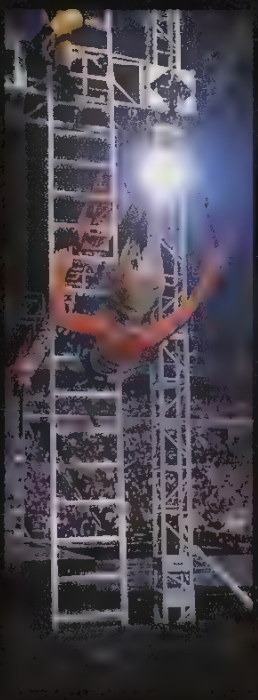
star Gary Coleman, who had accompanied Awesome to the show, ran to the ring and gave Jarrett a low blow, but Jarrett recovered and gave the diminutive actor a guitar shot. Sting ran out and hit the Scorpion Deathdrop on Jarrett, who was covered by Awesome for the win.

Three-Way Dance

This match between Sting, Vampiro and the Great Muta was to be the final chapter of the bizarre feud between Sting and the Dark Carnival. Vampiro and Muta double-teamed Sting at the outset while the Insane Clown Posse commentated at ringside.

Eventually, Muta and Vampiro got into a shoving match, prompting ICP to enter the ring to act as peacemakers. Sting took out the entire Carnival with a bat and pinned Muta with the Scorpion Deathdrop. After the match, ICP and Vampiro attacked Muta, but Sting pulled Muta to safety.





U.S. Title Match

"Hacksaw" Jim Duggan, who had symbolically passed the torch to General Rection by presenting him with his American flag two weeks prior to Fall Brawl, was the special referee for this match between Rection and champion Lance Storm. If Rection won, not only would he gain the title, but Major Gunns could leave Team Canada and rejoin Misfits in Action.

Rection gained control and went to the top rope for a moonsault. In a shocking development, Duggan floored Rection with his 2x4, allowing Storm to slap on a Canadian Maple Leaf for the victory. After the match, Duggan revealed he was wearing a shirt bearing a Canadian maple leaf.

Pittsburgh Plunge Scaffold Match

The latest chapter in the feud between Kidman and "The Franchise" Shane Douglas was to be played out on a scaffold 20 feet in the air. Also in the match were Torrie Wilson (with Douglas) and Madusa (with Kidman). The first team to climb down the scaffold to the floor would be declared the winners.

Madusa attempted to climb down the side of the scaffold, but Douglas kicked her off, sending her crashing to the floor from 15 feet. Douglas next focused his attack on



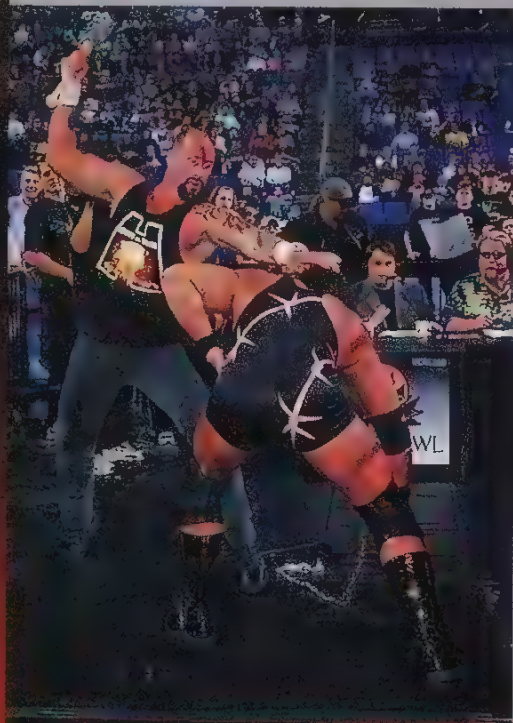
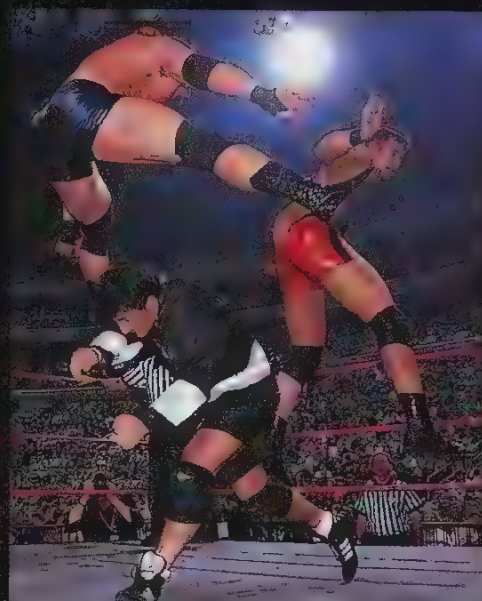


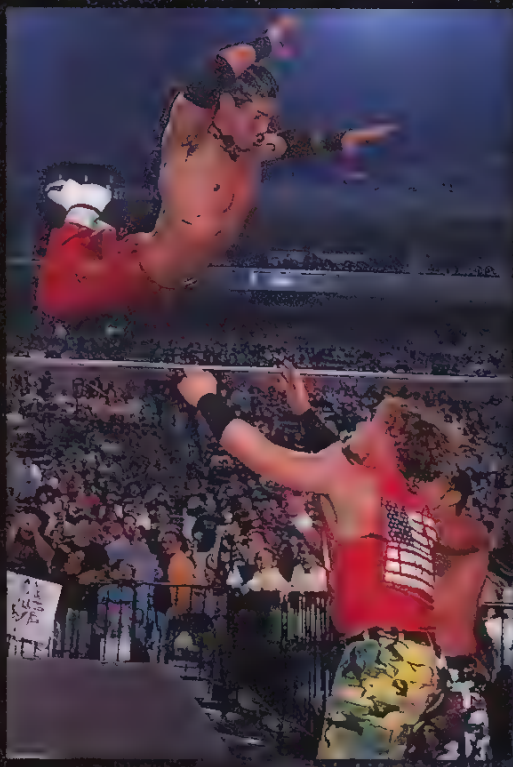
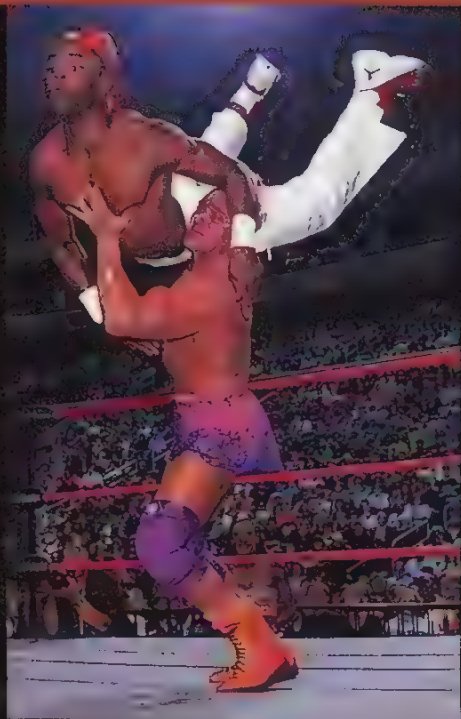
Kidman. After a bone-jarring powerslam of Kidman on the scaffold, Douglas tossed his foe off the top of the scaffold to the ground, giving the win to Douglas and Torrie.

Elimination Match

The Filthy Animals teamed with Big Vito and a mystery partner to face the Natural Born Thrillers. The mystery partner was revealed to be "Mr. Wonderful" Paul Orndorff, the Power Plant instructor who trained the Thrillers. In the weeks leading to the match, the former students turned on their mentor.

After Konnan, Disco, Big Vito, Reno, Juventud Guerrera and Johnny the Bull were eliminated, Orndorff executed a piledriver on Mark Jindrak, but he injured himself in the process. Sean O'Haire pinned





Orndorff, but referee Charles Robinson stopped the match due to Orndorff's injury and ruled it no-contest. It was reported later that Orndorff suffered a "stinger."

First Blood Chain Match

The Harris Brothers cost Kronik the tag-team title at New Blood Rising, and Brian Adams and Bryan Clark were seeking revenge. The first participant to bleed would cost his team the match.

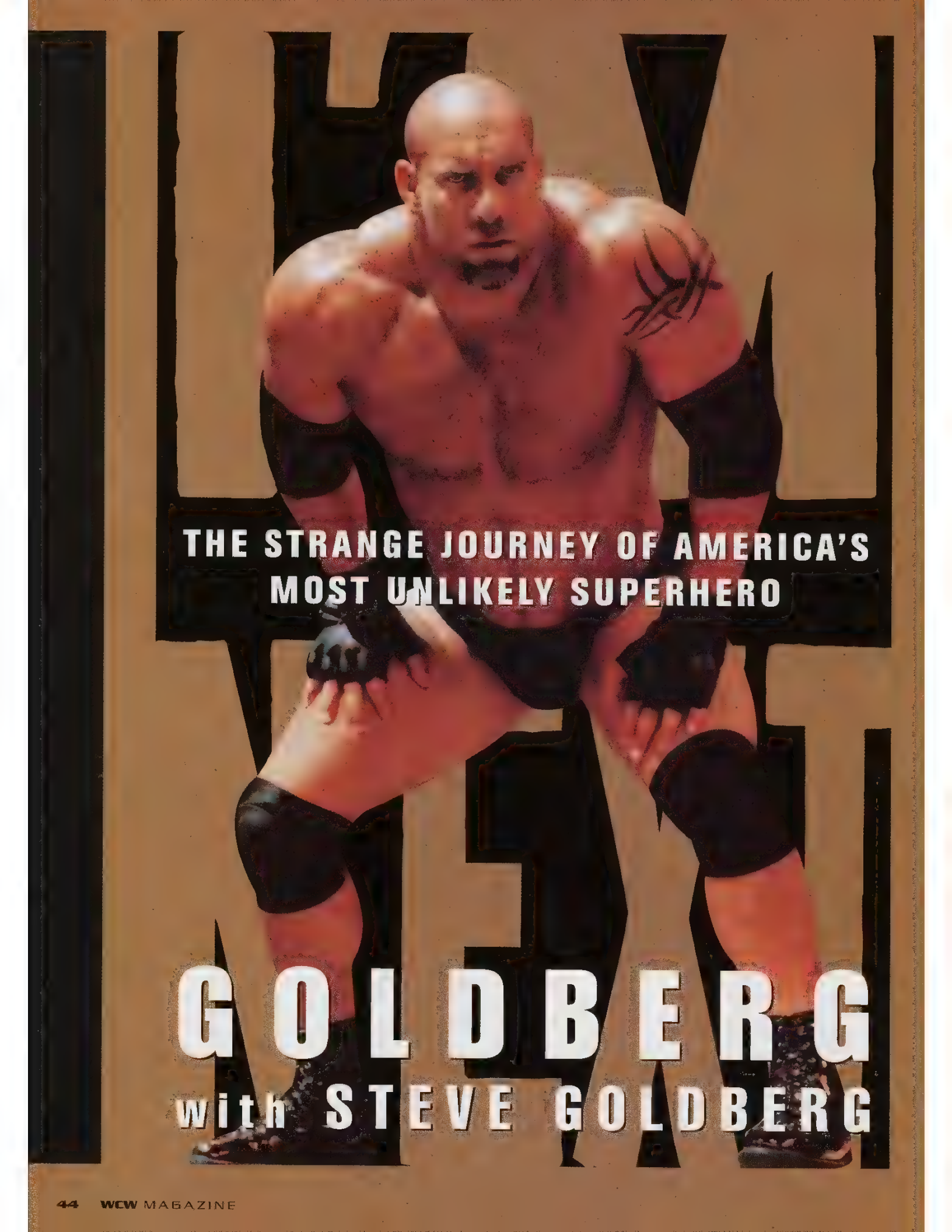
After brawling into the crowd, the combatants made their way back into the ring. Ron Harris was busted open, but referee Charles Robinson had been inadvertently hit with the chain and rendered unconscious. By the time Robinson recovered, he saw Adams bleeding and awarded the match to the Harris Brothers.

Cruiserweight Title Match

In the highlight of the match, champion "Prime Time" Elix Skipper nailed Kwee-Wee with a backflip off the top rope onto the floor. Kwee-Wee eventually gained the advantage, but he was undone by the Natural Born Thrillers. "Above Average" Mike Sanders entered the ring and hit Kwee-Wee with a stickball bat. Skipper then hit the Overdrive on Kwee-Wee to retain his title.

Misfits in Action vs. 3 Count

Lieutenant Loco, Corporal Cajun and Sergeant A-Wall represented MIA. 3 Count gained the advantage with several triple-team moves on Cajun before A-Wall cleared the ring. A-Wall was in control until Shane Helms landed a superkick that sent A-Wall off the ring apron and through a table. With the action going on in and around the ring, Cajun pinned Helms with a sit-out slam.

A full-page photograph of professional wrestler Steve Goldberg. He is shirtless, muscular, and has a goatee. He is wearing black elbow pads, black knee pads, and black boots with silver studs. He is in a crouching pose, looking directly at the camera with a serious expression. In the background, the word 'HIT' is written in large, black, block letters. The overall color scheme is warm, with a brownish-orange tint.

**THE STRANGE JOURNEY OF AMERICA'S
MOST UNLIKELY SUPERHERO**

GOLDBERG
with **STEVE GOLDBERG**

Bill Goldberg offered WCW MAGAZINE first rights to excerpt his autobiography. We chose Chapter Four, in which Goldberg discusses the creation of his character

Chapterfour

THE PRODUCTION OF GOLDBERG

When you complete your training and you're ready to start your career as a professional wrestler, you need to establish your identity, or, as they say in the business, your "gimmick." You are either given the ideas for a gimmick, or, as in my case, you can attempt to develop your own character. The idea is to come up with a persona and a finishing move that sets you apart from other guys. The gimmick incorporates your style and look and body type. When you start wrestling in front of the public, you *become* the character you are portraying. Some people come in with their character already established from another federation, although that federation may own the rights to the character. For instance, the Big Show of the World Wrestling Federation used to be the Giant when he was with the WCW.

Three or four months before I started my training, I studied wrestling tapes and ordered Shoot Fighting and martial-arts tapes to look for new moves.

Shoot Fighting n.: A hybrid sport combining Muay Thai kickboxing and submission wrestling and jujitsu.

I developed my character mostly from the Shoot Fighting tapes, but I also incorporated moves from the martial-arts classes that I took when I played football. I figured that I could come up with something that people wanted to see. By watching a lot of No Holds Barred tapes, I saw different styles of fighting. I figured if I could duplicate the moves in the wrestling ring without killing other people or myself, that it would be entertaining, not to mention quite violent.

I learned ways to incorporate fighting styles of people like Oleg Taktarov, who was a master of Russian sambo, a submission-fighting technique taught in the Russian army. I watched guys lay holds on people from the strangest positions, and I thought if I could do that, being as big as I was, with the look that I had, I'd be doing things that no one had ever

seen before. Hopefully, this would create a lethal and electrifying package. I also wanted to use my size, strength, and tenacity from football in my character. As far as wrestling is concerned, I'm very lucky to have been born me, which I could never say in regard to football. Some people, including Vince McMahon, have called me a Steve Austin clone. This is not true at all, and I didn't care what Steve Austin looked like because in no way, shape, or form did I try to emulate him or anyone else. This isn't taking anything away from Austin because he has created a terrific character, and I respect him as a wrestler and as a person. Other people have suggested that my character was an attempt by the WCW to create a character similar to Ken Shamrock. This isn't true. Shamrock is a real Shoot Fighter and he brings the reality of Shoot Fighting to the world of professional wrestling. I'm just assuming a Shoot Fighting character, and the idea to do that was just something I came up with. I definitely wasn't copying Shamrock. I didn't even know about his wrestling gimmick. Wrestling is such an individual endeavor that if you copy someone else's character, it's obvious, and it means that you have no imagination whatsoever.

In football it's an entirely different story, because you're not allowed to use your individuality, and there are only so many ways to succeed. That's why I respected Howie Long and wanted to be like him. To me, he was *the man*! I have since met him, and he has even impressed me more as a person than he did as a football player. That's really saying something.

In something as silly as professional wrestling, which isn't based on athletic performance alone, success comes down to your ingenuity, and I figured that I could be as ingenious as anyone when it came to developing my character. I could choose any character I wanted, and I thought that by accentuating my own personality and multiplying it maybe times ten, I could create a good persona. I always knew in my mind what I wanted to do. I just let it evolve and kind of played it by ear

• **Title:** "I'm Next: The Strange Journey of America's Most Unlikely Superhero"

• **Author:** By Bill Goldberg with Steve Goldberg

• **Publisher:** Crown

• **Pages:** 288

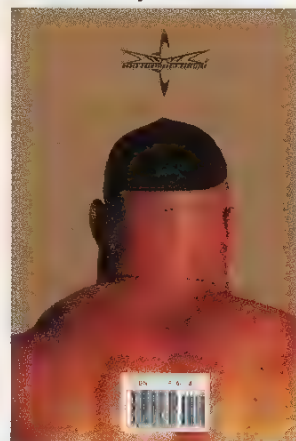
• **Photography:** 16-page insert of color photos; 75 black-and-white photos

• **Price:** \$25; \$37 (Canada)

• **First Printing:** 200,000

• **Release Date:** November 14, 2000

Back cover jacket.





©AUTHOR'S PERSONAL COLLECTION

and molded it myself within the leeway I was given. I wanted to avoid all the usual wrestling self-promotional hype. I wanted to be silent and carry a big stick (so to speak). If the crowd liked it, I'd be in. With a little bit of luck and the right finishing move, I'd be on my way to success ... and hopefully, a lot of money.

THE GOLDBERG LOOK

My girlfriend, Lisa, always thought that the bald-headed biker look was sexy. Since I already had the high and tight cut from football, I was already close to fulfilling at least one of her fantasies. One day, when I was recovering from my surgery, I felt like doing something crazy, so I grabbed a razor and took out a row of my hair. I couldn't go back so I finished the job, and I've been bald ever since. It was well before my wrestling career, right after I got out of football. I was in the mood to do *something* then because there wasn't much else going on. It wasn't like I was going to work at a law office every day.

As far as the motorcycle was concerned, since I was a kid I always wanted to ride one, but because my dad was a doctor, it was out of the question. He used to tell me that if I wanted to get a bike, he would take me down to the emergency room to show me what happened when you crashed on a motorcycle. If I could walk out of there and accept the fact that it could be me all mangled up, then he would consider it. It wasn't until I wrestled for the *Road Wild* pay-per-view in Sturgis, South Dakota, that I got my first Harley—a Road King.

It seemed that there was one thing missing to complete the look, and that was a tattoo.

Deep down, I had always wanted a tattoo, and it was just a matter of time before I gave in and inked the deal. Lisa had introduced me to a tattoo artist named Mike Parsons, just in case I ever decided to get one.

So one day I was just sitting in my house not planning to get a tattoo ... just like I wasn't planning on shaving my head and wasn't planning on becoming a wrestler. I was thinking, *Hell, if I follow through with all of these changes, then maybe I can't back out of the decision to become a wrestler.* That's when I got the tattoo. I was so reluctant to become a wrestler that I tricked myself into doing it, honest to god. I shaved my head and wrestling was closer to reality. I got the tattoo and wrestling was closer to reality. I kept doing these things until I couldn't turn back without looking stupid. Thank god, I didn't get a nose ring.

I had seen a guy in a No Holds Barred competition who had a tattoo that caught my eye. There was just something about it that was different—and I am a man who likes to be different. Something made it stand out; I don't know if it was the points or whatever, but it stuck in my mind. When I was working on the set of the movie *Ready to Rumble*, there were two fighters in the ring messing around, and I started talking to one of the guys. I'll be damned if it wasn't that same guy that I got the idea of the tattoo from. Sorry, dude, but yours looked like shit. I'm glad I never saw a close-up of it because I never would have gotten my tattoo.

I just happened to be in the neighborhood the week before, and I went to Psycho Tattoo and showed Mike Parsons my idea. He told me it would cost \$375 for what I wanted, and a week later I just happened to have 375 bucks in my pocket. I figured, *Hell, I'm in the right state of mind; I might as well do it.*

So I drove the thirty minutes to Psycho Tattoo and picked out a design that was similar to the one I had seen. With a little coaching, Mike started drawing it freehand, and he molded it to the size of my shoulder. It was intricate—he measured everything and did it strategically.

I had some time to kill before he was ready to get started, so I went down the street to a restaurant. I ordered some chicken-fried steak, and I had two or three shots of tequila and some beers. I still had enough time to go down the street to where Lisa was working,



©AUTHOR'S PERSONAL COLLECTION

and I went in and told her that I was about to get the tattoo. She was surprised and very happy with my decision.

It took three and a half hours, and it didn't hurt nearly as much as I thought it would, but all of the alcohol in my system thinned my blood and I bled like crazy. My shoulder sizzled like a porterhouse on the grill. I kind of enjoyed it.

I remember when I showed up at my cousin Jane's wedding in Omaha with a bald head and a tattoo. The reaction from the family was less than favorable, but I didn't care what people thought. I just went with it. I knew that I had an idea, and I knew that if that idea was brought out and thought out and followed through, I could succeed.

THE UNIFORM

Before my first match I was standing outside of the trailer when one of the bookers, Paul Orndorff, came over to talk to me. Paul was one of the wrestlers I had watched as a kid, and I always liked him. He suggested that I shave my body hair to show off more muscle definition. I kind of went along with it with a quick "Yeah, O.K.," but I wasn't about to shave because I wanted to look like a football player looks, as opposed to a cut bodybuilder. The guys that I knew who shaved their bodies were all bodybuilders, and I thought it was kind of fruity. Of course, now I shave my back and everything (well almost everything), and I'm not a fruit, so whatever. ... I like fruit.

I did everything I could to get away from wearing briefs. I wanted to wear a wrestling singlet, football pants, or something. I was digging for anything to not have to wear my underwear out there. Terry Taylor talked to me about wearing shin pads in the beginning so that I'd look like some of the Shoot Fighting guys, and I remember one day he also said to me that the color of my trunks should match my shin pads. I looked at him and told him that that really wasn't what I had in mind. I didn't want to wear shin pads, and I only wanted to wear black. I will never forget that because I wasn't in any position of power, but he listened to me. I told him that if I didn't feel right, then I couldn't go out there and portray my character. Any color other than black wouldn't give me the feeling I needed to make it work. And I've worn black ever since. Wearing black made me feel like I was that Oakland Raider that I always wanted to be. I didn't give a shit

if I wore the same color every day, I wanted black.

As for the gloves, they made me look different, and they completed the appearance of the UFC-style wrestler I wanted to be. Also, I knew that eventually I was going to have to punch people in the face. I knew that, in reality, a punch from a guy my size would open anyone up, so when I progressed to punching people in the face, by wearing the gloves, I'd be protecting my opponent somewhat.

THE SPEAR

Before one of my first matches with Manny Fernandez, Jody Hamilton, the head of the Power Plant, came up to me in the trailer and said, "Whatever you do, kid, do something to start the match off with a bang." I remember it vividly. I didn't tell Manny anything except that I was going to tackle him. We were circling around, facing each other, and I looked at Manny and said, "Hold on!" and I ran him over.

After the match, I came back to the trailer, and Jody told me, "Kid, whatever you do, *always* use that setup move!" Thank you, Jody.

I had no idea what effect the move would have, but it made perfect sense, since I had been a defensive lineman and tackling was my forte. The fact that the move is called the spear is part of the evolution. It originates from a football term.

Spear n.: A violent tackle using your head as a weapon.

Growing up, my parents told me to use my head, and I guess, in a strange way, I am, although I don't think that this is how they intended me to use it.

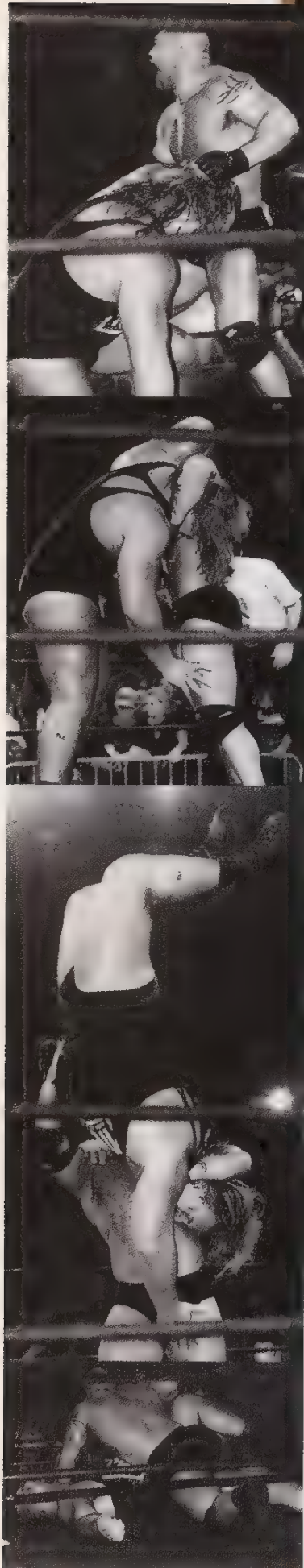
THE JACKHAMMER

I was sitting around one night trying to come up with a finishing move, and I thought of a move that combined a suplex and a power slam. I didn't pursue it, though, because I thought it would be too dangerous. A few weeks later, Sarge came up to me and said that he'd been thinking of a finish for me, and he described it. It was the same damn move. Some people think alike. I tried it out at home on my good buddy and human guinea pig, Terry, and then I perfected it on the guys at the Power Plant.

When I first met Dean Malenko, he walked



©MIKE GOLDBERG



©MIKE GOLDBERG

up to me and commented on my finish. "Nice move," he said. "Anytime you want me to teach you how to do it right, let me know." He went on to say, "If you were a real man, you'd do it off the top rope." I just thought he was screwing with me, but I found out later that he used to do a similar move off the top rope when he wrestled in Japan. If I'd known that Dean used it before, in all honesty, I would have changed the move. Never in a million years did I want to copy a move or a spot or anything else, let alone a finishing move, because that is what you're known by. To me it's an unwritten rule that seems to be broken daily: You don't take another guy's finisher. Stealing a guy's finish is like taking food off his plate, and no one will ever be able to convince me otherwise.

Sarge:

We were messing around with some stuff. We got an idea to do something out of a suplex and a corkscrew 'cause originally Bill was doing it where he picked up the guy, did a half little turn with him, and he'd come down like he does now. He learned after doing it a few times that it always can't be a certain way. He got the foundation, then branched out on his own and developed it in his own style. That's how it happened, and now he picks them up straight into the power slam.

The concern for injury eventually took the turn out of the Jackhammer. There was concern, but when Bill sets his mind to do something, he'll do it regardless. I've seen him pick up big Ron Reese, and the Giant—guys you just wouldn't believe.

I had my finishing move, but it needed a name—something powerful, something explosive. I wanted something simple, one word that depicted the move itself and its impact. I was thinking heavy machinery. I thought of the Guillotine and the Piledriver but they had been used before and I wanted something original. Then it came to me. It was actually a name that my father's wife, Arlene, had suggested for my character—Jack Hammer. So, I had a finishing move and it had a name ... *the Jackhammer!*

GOLDBERG

The name Goldberg, that's an entirely different story. It came about purely by chance. From the time that I decided to wrestle, I start-

ed thinking of names. I was considering calling myself the Beast, or the Annihilator, and I even went so far as considering the name "the Mossad," after the Israeli secret service. The name I liked more than any of them was the Hybrid, which to me described my fighting style. Right before one of my early matches, I remember someone coming up to me and asking me what I wanted to be called, and I said, "Well, I came up with this name, the Hybrid." They performed a copyright search and found the name Hybrid Clothing already registered. There would be a problem with merchandising if they ever did a T-shirt for me, and I thought to myself, *Who cares about that?* I thought, *What the hell, I'll be the Hybrid.* I didn't think that I'd ever have a T-shirt, so I didn't see what the problem was, but thankfully, they saw it differently.

It was my first match in front of a live audience, and as I was headed to the ring, they announced me as Bill Goldberg. I was standing in the middle of the ring, and maybe four people were clapping, and I remember thinking to myself, *I can't believe I actually went through with this. I'm out here in my underwear and calling myself by my real name, and it sure as hell does not sound very menacing.* I thought it was horrible. *Boy*, was I wrong.

Shaquille O'Neal:

Most successful people have a nice ring to their name. Larry Bird ... Magic Johnson ... Michael Jordan ... Gold-berg! It's just a nice name, Gold-berg. It just sounds mean! That's one of those names, if you're wrestling and you don't know who you're fighting, you hear the announcer say, "Next up-Goldberg," you go, "Goldberg? I'll whip his ass!" But as soon as he comes out, he's one of those guys. He's a specimen! That's what I'm gonna call myself—the Big Goldberg. I like that name!

PYROTECHNICS

Most everyone gets generic pyro and the top guys get bangs and a symphony of lights, big to-dos for their entrance. I was asked if I was willing to stand in the middle of the flying sparks. I thought it would look pretty wicked. And most importantly, no one else had ever done it. I try to douse myself with as much water as possible so that I don't spontaneously combust. But believe me, it's painful. It's something that I can withstand because of its origi-

ality and how it sets me off from everyone else. I endure it because of the effect.

The smoke thing was an afterthought. I saw a replay of me standing in the middle of the sparks, and smoke was coming out of my nose and mouth. I asked my dad the doctor if it was hazardous to my health and he told me to check the chemical makeup. It's pure pyrotechnics, which are probably worse than other chemicals, but I only do it once a week. It burns, for sure. It's kind of like sticking a big sparkler up your nose.

At the Palace, Auburn Hills, Goldberg's record is 98-0

TONY SCHIAVONE: *You can't even set the man on fire.*

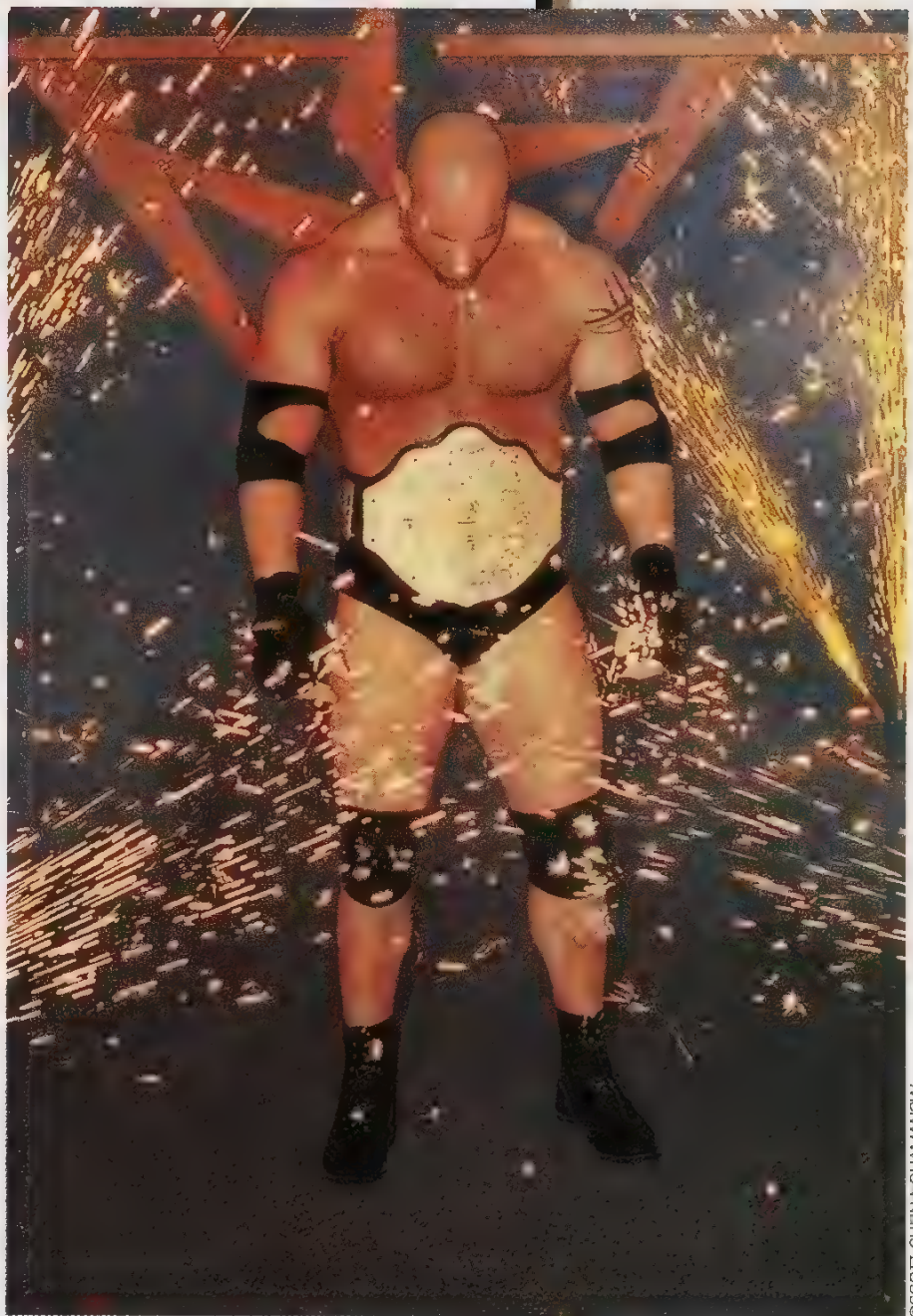
MEAN GENE OKERLUND: *From the moment he hits that pyro and they crank it up and you see the sparklers and flames and everything go off and he kind of evolves out of it, you can see the GUY HAS GOT STAR WRITTEN ALL OVER HIM. He's a very impressive guy.*

THE THEME MUSIC

We were at a Saturday show after my first match, and I went into one of the production trailers, and they were asking me about music for my entrance. Turner has a vast library of different music, and we went through a bunch of different styles before I narrowed it down to a few categories. The technician narrowed it down further, and I really liked this one particular dramatic march. Evidently my music was at one time picked out for Sting. Fortunately, he chose not to use it, because I liked what I heard and went with it.

GILLBERG

Since I'm talking about my look, this is a good place to address that Mini-Me-Like character that the World Wrestling Federation came up with to make fun of me. When I first heard they were doing a parody of me called Gillberg, I was incensed. I built up this picture in my mind of what it was going to be, and the picture I imagined wasn't nearly as bad as what I eventually saw. I thought it was ridiculous. I wanted to slam everything I saw associated with them and especially the guy doing it, Duane Gill. In retrospect, the guy was just doing his job, but to me, mockery ain't flattery. Even though that guy was getting paid to do it, and it was Vince McMahon's or whoever's idea, I still want to squeeze Gillberg's little



©SCOTT CUTLER/SHAMWOW

head like a grape.

Is that taking the business too seriously? I swore I'd never do that. Oh, well ...

THE CHARACTER GOLDBERG

As a wrestler, I see myself as a cross between Bruiser Brody, Nikita Koloff, Buzz Sawyer, Ken Shamrock, and a wrestling character from one of my favorite movies, *Paradise Alley*—Franky the Thumper. Why these guys? I always admired the relentlessness of Bruiser Brody, the sheer look of Nikita Koloff, the aggressive way of Buzz Sawyer, and the intensity and Shoot Fighting style of Ken Shamrock. As for Franky the Thumper, I just like his character. He was violent, powerful, and a bit scary. By the way, Terry Funk played Franky the Thumper. ●

From "I'm Next: The Strange Journey of America's Most Unlikely Superhero" by Bill Goldberg with Steve Goldberg. Copyright © 2000 by Bill Goldberg and Steve Goldberg. Reprinted by permission of Crown Publishers, a division of Random House Inc.

Eye of the Storm



Underneath the ultra-serious Lance Storm persona lies Lance Evers, a family man known for his dry wit

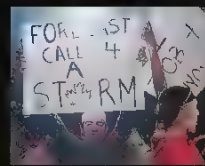
and [unclear] [unclear]

Canadian patriot, champion and ring technician Lance Storm wants nothing more than for fans to take him seriously. Lance Evers, the person behind the Storm character, claims to want the same. Unfortunately, due to the Ontario native's reputation for dry sarcasm, it nearly is impossible to tell when Storm/Evers is pushing for respect—or

just pulling your respective leg.

"There's not really a whole lot of difference between Storm and Evers, except that maybe I'm toned down a bit," Evers says. "I don't know, it's a fine line. Lance Storm, the character, is probably just Lance Evers with the buffers taken off."

His on-air attitude certainly represents aspects of his real personality, but they don't



Eye of the



Underneath the ultra-serious Lance Storm persona lies Lance Evers, a family man known for his dry wit

By Chad Damiani

Storm



CARRETT/EL

Canadian patriot, champion and ring technician Lance Storm wants nothing more than for fans to take him seriously. Lance Evers, the person behind the Storm character, claims to want the same. Unfortunately, due to the Ontario native's reputation for dry sarcasm, it nearly is impossible to tell when Storm/Evers is pushing for respect—or

just pulling your respective leg.

"There's not really a whole lot of difference between Storm and Evers, except that maybe I'm toned down a bit," Evers says. "I don't know, it's a fine line. Lance Storm, the character, is probably just Lance Evers with the buffers taken off."

His on-air attitude certainly represents aspects of his real personality, but they don't

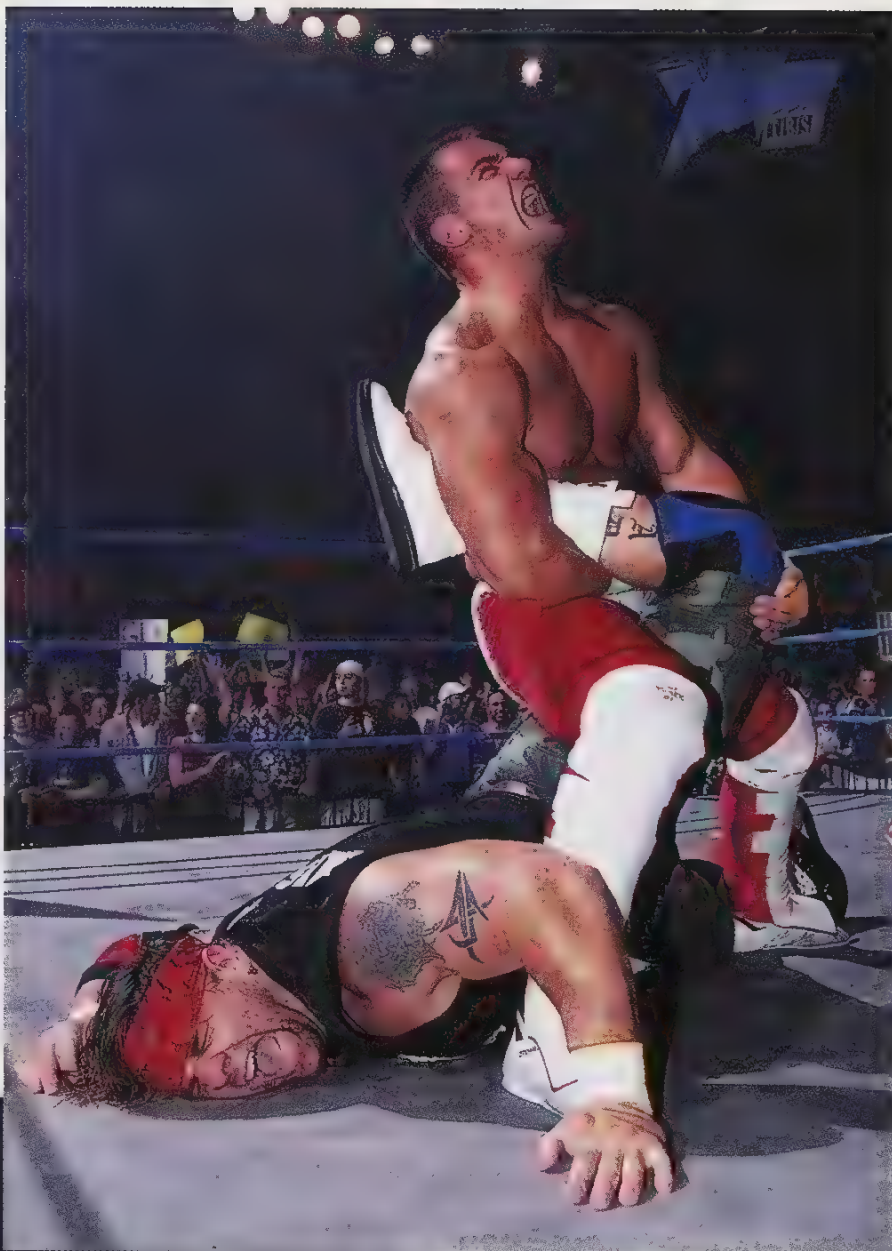


ALLEN KEEN/CW

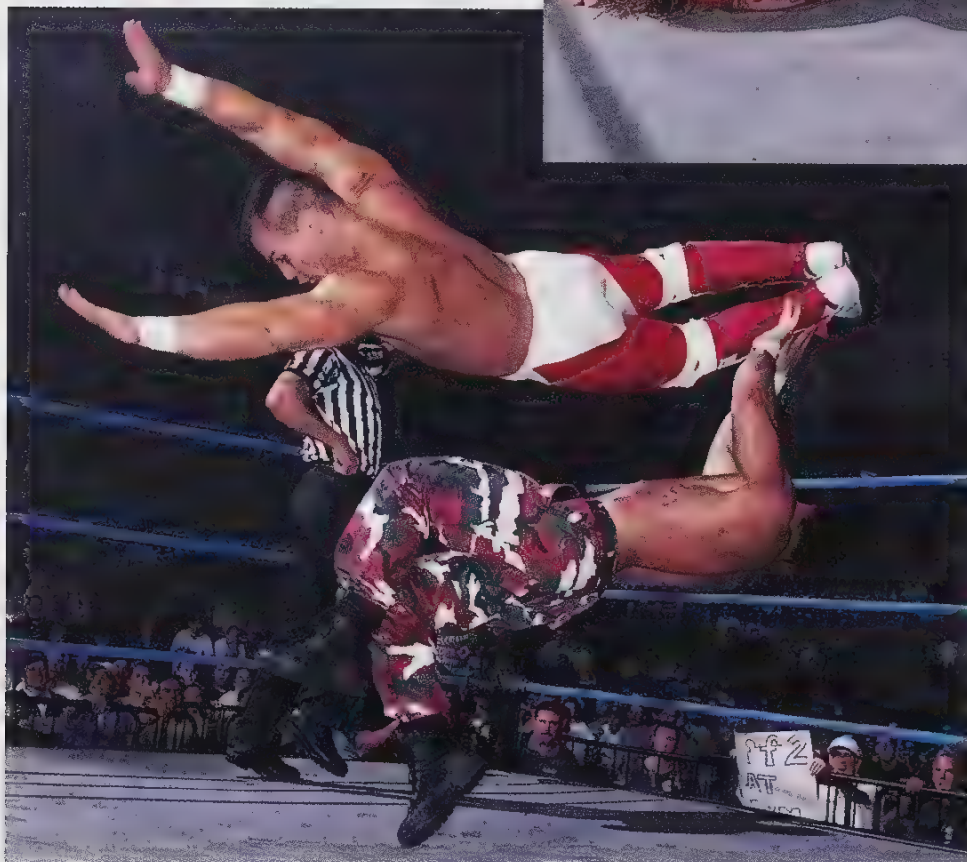
serve as a complete looking glass into the personal wants and woes of Evers the father, family man, movie buff and bookworm. The dichotomy between performer and person seems as pronounced as Storm's flawless diction. Storm loves Canada, while Evers despises Canadian air travel. Evers openly admits doing "the job" to his wife during domestic spats, yet Storm treats WCW women with less reverence than his polished ring boots.

One moment, a stone-faced Storm delivers a blistering indictment of American values to throngs of booing fans. Next, he is enticing visitors to his website (stormwrestling.com) with anecdotes and opinions about The Cracker Barrel restaurant ("I carry a map which shows all of their locations nationwide so I always can find one," he says), Waffle House contests and a nipple-biting joke he once played on Stampede Wrestling legend "Champagne" Gerry Morrow.

"With the possible exception of Al Snow, I'm considered to be the biggest smart-ass in the business," Evers says in one of the first commentaries posted



GARRETT ELLWOOD/WCW



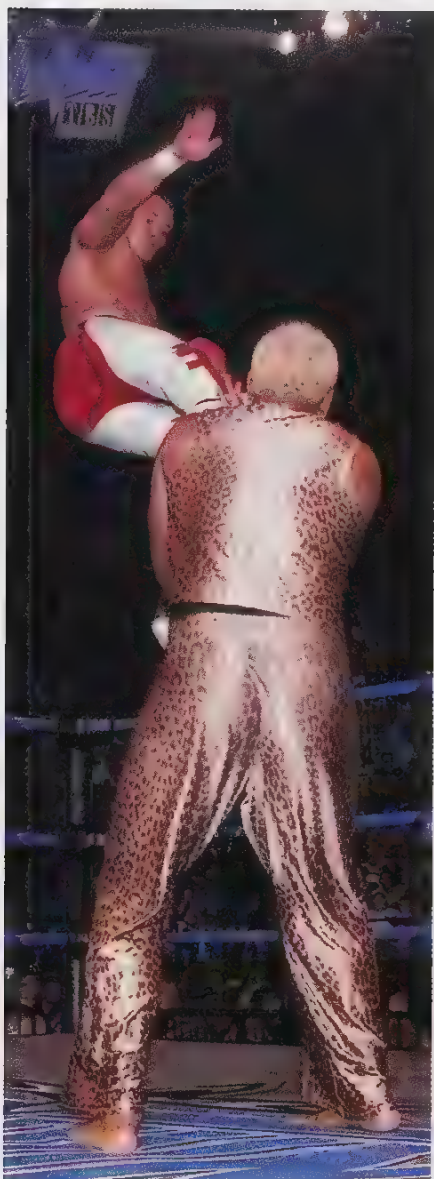
ALLEY KELLY/WCW

on his website. "Personally, I don't think Al is in my league. But based on his age I'm willing to give him the benefit of the doubt."

Despite their ideological differences, Evers and Storm share one undeniable trait: an unflinching commitment to physical excellence. At age 13, Evers received a weight set for Christmas and learned weight training from his father. "I trained in my basement for two years," Evers says. "My first year in high school, I weighed 185 pounds and was benching in the neighborhood of 300 pounds."

While attending West Ferris Secondary School in Ontario, Canada, Evers played basketball and competed in track and field, but his main focus was on volleyball. Evers' love of the

game and 89.5 percent grade average allowed him to attend Wilfred Laurier University in Waterloo, Ontario, where he studied business and played for the Golden Hawks volleyball team. "After a year and a half, I found that a poor coach can take the fun out of the game," says Evers, who eventually left the Hawks and subsequently lost interest in his studies.



SCOTT CUNNINGHAM/WCW

Evers, however, didn't lose his love of sport and competition. In 1990 he enrolled in the Hart Brothers Pro Wrestling Camp in Calgary, Alberta, Canada. Working three hours a day, five days a week for eight weeks, Evers built a foundation for his future wrestling excellence and began a friendship with fellow Canadian

wrestler Chris Irvine (Chris Jericho). "After tagging with Chris for about a year and a half, he admitted that his first impression of me was that I had a spare tire and pin legs," Evers says.

While Storm gained weight, honed his skills and thundered through independent shows in Canada, Japan and even Lebanon ("We had a terrible experience, got stiffed and only received about 25 percent of our money," he says of Lebanon), Evers worked midnight shifts at a gas station/convenience store outside Calgary, worked the door at Malarkeys Bar and washed cars to supplement his income. While overseas, Evers learned to love reading. Back home in Canada, he proposed to his future wife, Tina, just days before leaving for a six-month tour of Europe. Two years later, Evers' first daughter was born while Storm worked a tour of War Japan. "I never wanted a flight to end as bad as the one home after that tour," Evers says.

The year 2000 marked Storm's entrance into WCW after a successful run in Extreme Championship Wrestling, his first triple-title reign and the birth of his second daughter, Rachel Anne. (Evers was present for this birth, but received a speeding ticket for his spousal diligence.)

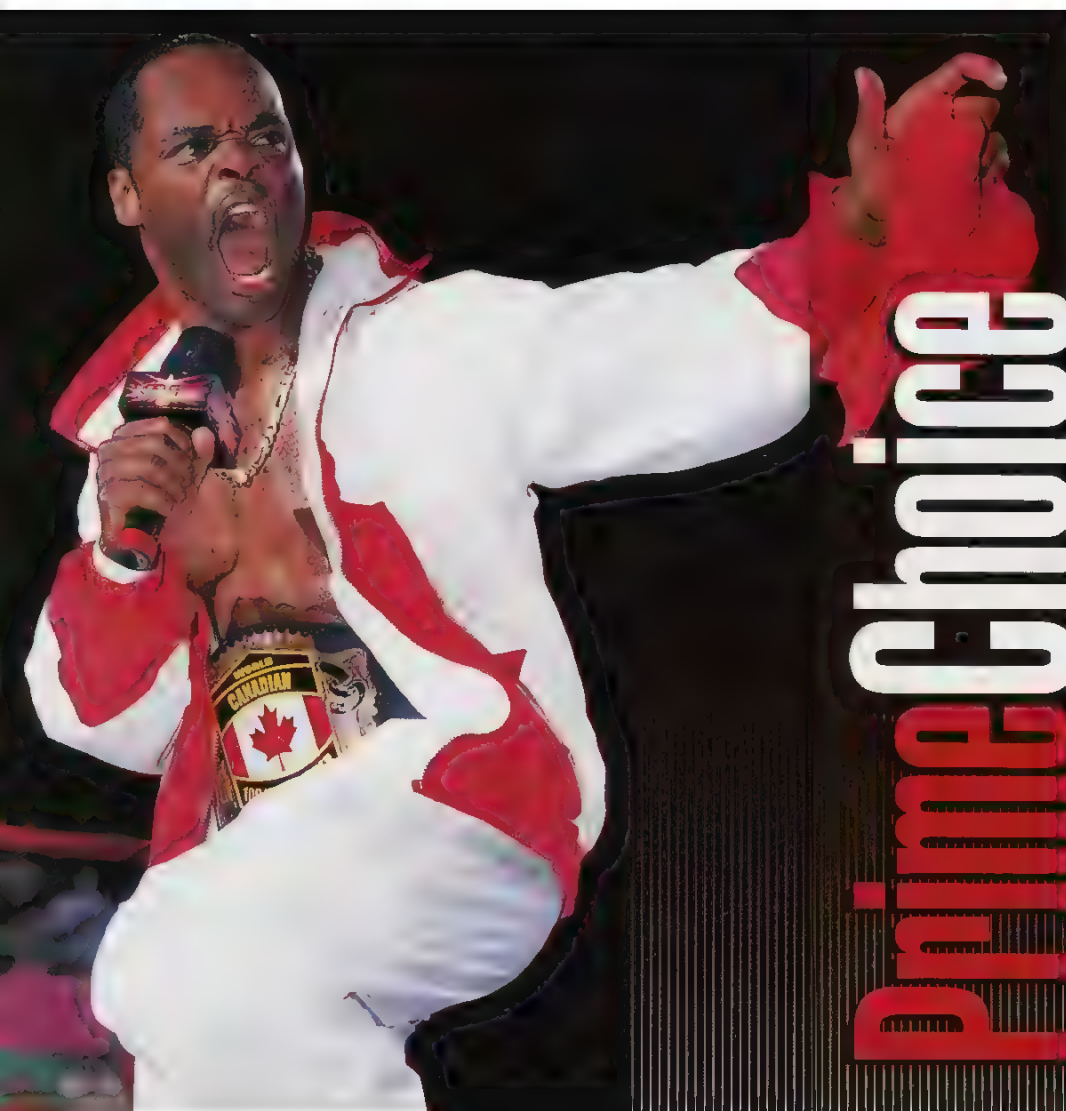
After a decade in the business, Evers has managed to build a solid career and a family while maintaining a traditional wrestling philosophy in the ever-changing world of sports entertainment. He has grown to loathe traveling while still loving the kinship the road provides. "You haven't lived until you've spent 20 hours in a 15-passenger van with 18 guys and a potbellied pig," says Evers, when asked about the worst road trip of his wrestling career. "It's times like that which build friendships that will last forever."

Storm's career has just begun to flourish, and you can be sure it will be Evers' commitment to good sportsmanship, backstage professionalism and family values that will ensure his legacy, both at home and within the ring. ♦

Statement of Ownership, Management and Circulation

(Required by 39 USC 3685)

1. **Title of Publication:** WCW Magazine
2. **Publication Number:** 016-177
3. **Date of Filing:** September 21, 2000
4. **Issue Frequency:** Monthly
5. **Number of Issues Published Annually:** 12
6. **Annual Subscription Price:** \$24.97
7. **Complete Mailing Address of Known Office of Publication:** One CNN Center, Box 105366, Atlanta, GA 30348-5366
8. **Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher:** Same
9. **Full Names and Complete Mailing Addresses of Publisher and Editor:** Ken Leiker, One CNN Center, Box 105366, Atlanta, GA 30348-5366; Kevin Eck, One CNN Center, Box 105366, Atlanta, GA 30348-5366
10. **Owner:** World Championship Wrestling, Inc., One CNN Center, Box 105366, Atlanta, GA 30348-5366
11. **Known Bondholders, Mortgagees, and Other Security Holders Owning or Holding 1 Percent or More of Total Amount of Bonds, Mortgages or Other Securities:** None
12. **Tax Status** (For completion by nonprofit organizations to mail at nonprofit rates)
13. **Publication Name:** WCW Magazine
14. **Issue Date for Circulation Data:** September 2000
15. **Extent and Nature of Circulation; Average Number Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months; Actual Number Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date**
 - a. **Total Number of Copies (Net press run):** 304,857; 247,326
 - b. **Paid and/or Requested Circulation**
 - (1) **Paid or Requested Outside County Mail Subscriptions Stated on Form 3541 (include advertisers proof and exchange copies):** 26,076; 25,366
 - (2) **Sales Through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors, Counter Sales, and Other Non-USPS Paid Distribution:** 68,034; 72,147
 - c. **Total Paid and/or Requested Circulation:** 94,110; 97,513
 - d. **Free Distribution by Mail (samples, complimentary and other free):** 1,910; 3,202
 - e. **Free Distribution Outside the Mail (carriers or other means):** None
 - f. **Total Free Distribution (sum of 15d and 15e):** 1,910; 3,202
 - g. **Total Distribution (Sum of 15c and 15f):** 96,020; 100,715
 - h. **Copies Not Distributed:** 208,834; 146,611
 - i. **Total (sum of 15g and 15h):** 304,854; 247,326
- Percent Paid and/or Requested Circulation (15c/15g x 100):** 98%; 96.8%
16. **This Statement of Ownership will be printed in the November 2000 issue of this publication.**
17. **Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager or Owner:** Ken Leiker, Publisher, September 21, 2000



PrimeChoice

Elix Skipper was a single parent of two children and a manager at a McDonald's restaurant when he saw a WCW television commercial that changed his life. "I was watching TV right after I got one of my raises," he says. "It didn't go the way it was planned and I got half of what I was supposed to get. I was annoyed. When I went home that night, I watched wrestling and a commercial came on for the Power Plant. I wrote the number down and called."

So began Skipper's pursuit of a childhood dream to become a sports entertainer, a dream that recently became a reality. Skipper, known as "Prime Time," made his Nitro debut the past summer.



Elix Skipper hasn't looked back after leaving a stable job to dive headfirst into a career in sports entertainment.

By Jennifer Williams

as a member of Lance Storm's Team Canada and was immediately given the WCW cruiserweight title.

Raised in Long Island, New York, and named after his grandfather, Skipper fondly recalls occasions when his family gathered to watch wrestling on television. "At Thanksgiving and other holidays, we would order the wrestling pay-per-views," he says. "I always wanted to wrestle, so my goal was to weight train, learn some type of martial arts and try to get into wrestling."

After graduating from high school, Skipper received training from McDonald's to become a manager, but he never strayed far from his original plan. He focused on weight training and took kickboxing classes. As Skipper became more skilled at kickboxing, his instructor encouraged him to study Muay Thai, a form of the martial arts, which he did for five years.

After making the decision to seek a

tryout at the Power Plant training facility in Smyrna, Georgia, two years ago, Skipper encountered a few problems. First, Power Plant representatives informed him that he was 5 pounds shy of the 190-pound weight requirement. After three months Skipper was able to gain 5 pounds, but then he had difficulty reaching anyone at the Power Plant by telephone.

Skipper remembered that auditions were held at the beginning of every month, so he quit his job and drove from New York to Georgia, hoping for an opportunity to audition. Once he arrived, he discovered the tryouts weren't being held for two weeks. A frustrated but determined Skipper drove back to New York, waited two weeks and headed back to Atlanta.

Skipper's cross-country pilgrimage and persistence paid off. He survived the audition and began learning basic wrestling techniques and ring psychology.





GARRETT ELLWOOD/WCW (2)

Elix Skipper was a single parent of two children and a manager at a McDonald's restaurant when he saw a WCW television commercial that changed his life. "I was watching TV right after I got one of my raises," he says. "It didn't go the way it was planned and I got half of what I was supposed to get. I was annoyed. When I went home that night, I watched wrestling and a commercial came on for the Power Plant. I wrote the number down and called."

So began Skipper's pursuit of a childhood dream to become a sports entertainer, a dream that recently became a reality. Skipper, known as "Prime Time," made his Nitro debut the past summer



Elix Skipper hasn't looked back after leaving a stable job to dive headfirst into a career in sports entertainment

By Jennifer Williams

as a member of Lance Storm's Team Canada and was immediately given the WCW cruiserweight title.

Raised in Long Island, New York, and named after his grandfather, Skipper fondly recalls occasions when his family gathered to watch wrestling on television. "At Thanksgiving and other holidays, we would order the wrestling pay-per-views," he says. "I always wanted to wrestle, so my goal was to weight-train, learn some type of martial arts and try to get into wrestling."

After graduating from high school, Skipper received training from McDonald's to become a manager, but he never strayed far from his original plan. He focused on weight training and took kickboxing classes. As Skipper became more skilled at kickboxing, his instructor encouraged him to study Muay Thai, a form of the martial arts, which he did for five years.

After making the decision to seek a

tryout at the Power Plant training facility in Smyrna, Georgia, two years ago, Skipper encountered a few problems. First, Power Plant representatives informed him that he was 5 pounds shy of the 190-pound weight requirement. After three months Skipper was able to gain 5 pounds, but then he had difficulty reaching anyone at the Power Plant by telephone.

Skipper remembered that auditions were held at the beginning of every month, so he quit his job and drove from New York to Georgia, hoping for an opportunity to audition. Once he arrived, he discovered the tryouts weren't being held for two weeks. A frustrated but determined Skipper drove back to New York, waited two weeks and headed back to Atlanta.

Skipper's cross-country pilgrimage and persistence paid off. He survived the audition and began learning basic wrestling techniques and ring psycholo-

gy. After a month of training, he began wrestling at non-televvised shows. "The wrestling was the easy part; the psychology of wrestling is a lot harder. Learning what to do and when to do it takes a lot of practice," he says.

Skipper continued to hone his skills on non-televvised shows as well as the WCW Worldwide syndicated program and WCW Saturday Night before making the move to prime time as, fittingly enough, "Prime Time" Elix Skipper.

Skipper says he shares many personality traits with his character. "My character is very arrogant. He knows that no one else is better than he is," he says. "That was the same attitude I had in kickboxing."

"My character and I also have a motto: If you look good, you feel good; if you feel good, you perform good; if you perform good, you get paid good, and that's what it's all about." There are differences between the real person and the character, however. "In real life I'm arrogant, but I'm polite," he says. "I won't walk up to anyone and say, 'I'm better than you.' But if you challenge me to a game of basketball or something, I won't tell you how great I am, I'll just say, 'Come on. Let's get on the court and let's see what you can do.'"

Skipper enjoys spending time with his two children, LeMarcus, 13, and Tameka, 12. Skipper was married after high school, but the couple divorced after the birth of their daughter. He has had custody of his children since they were 2 and 3. Not only does their father's success make them proud, it also has gained them fame among their peers. "They love it because they're popular in school because of me," Skipper says. "There are also times when I can't be there and they want me there."

Skipper would like to see his

children get into entertainment, but he isn't pushing them. "I always tell them that I don't want them to feel as if I'm choosing the direction they should go," he says. "If they ask for advice, I'll tell them what I think, but the choice is up to them. My daughter wants to dance. She's in a program where she dances and takes speech classes. My son is into sports. He likes football, but I think he could get into wrestling. He's very athletic."

Skipper is trying to instill the same ideals in his children that his parents instilled in him. While his father encouraged him to stay with his stable job at McDonald's, his mother was very supportive of his career move. "My co-workers and friends, as much as they knew I wanted to wrestle, told me not to leave my job because I had been there so long," Skipper says. "They told me that I couldn't do it. If I had listened to them, I wouldn't be here now. It just proves what my mother said: 'If you want something bad enough, facts don't matter.'"

"Everyone is going to give you their opinion, but when it's all said and done, you have to live with yourself. When people are telling you that you can't do it, you have to know that you can. But you also have to know when you're in over your head and know when to step back. But let stepping back be your choice, not somebody else's decision."

Skipper says he would like to wrestle for another 10 to 15 years, and by then he hopes to own a clothing design business. In the meantime, he is determined to continue improving as a sports entertainer. "A lot of people slow down once they get to where they want to be, but not me," Skipper says. "I'm turning it up a notch. Ten years from now I won't be saying, 'Would've, could've, should've.' I won't have any regrets." ♦

BEAUTY and the BEEF

The following sweepstakes is intended for play in the U.S. only and shall be construed and evaluated according to U.S. law.

Slim Jim's "Beauty and the Beef" Sweepstakes

OFFICIAL SWEEPSTAKES RULES

NO PURCHASE NECESSARY. OPEN TO ALL LEGAL RESIDENTS OF THE 50 UNITED STATES AND D.C. VOID WHERE PROHIBITED. SWEEPSTAKES ENDS JANUARY 31, 2001.



1. ENTRY: Two (2) ways to win: one (1) Instant Win: Two (2) Random Drawing (1) You may enter for a chance to win an instant win prize by calling 1 888 454 4554 (1 888 4 SLIM JIM) from a touch-tone phone in the U.S. between 12:01am EST on October 30, 2000, and 11:59pm EST on January 31, 2001, and following the voice prompts. (2) You may enter for a chance to enter to win the Grand Prize by calling the phone number listed above during the time period referred to above or by mailing a 3" x 5" card on which you have printed your name, complete mailing address, telephone number and email address. If applicable, an envelope to Slim Jim's "Beauty and the Beef" Sweepstakes, P.O. Box 641806, Los Angeles, CA 90064. No mechanically reproduced or photocopied entries allowed. All entries become Sponsor's property none returned. Mailed entries must be postmarked by January 31, 2001 and received by February 14, 2001.

2. LIMITATIONS: Only one (1) entry per person per instant win and random drawing for the entire promotion period. Employees of Slim Jim/GoodMark Foods Inc., MTV Networks, Viacom International, Inc., The Creative Couch Companies, Inc. and their respective parent, subsidiary and affiliated companies, the advertising, promotional, printing and fulfillment agencies of each of them individually and collectively, the "Promotion Entities" and members of the immediate families or households of each of the above are not eligible. The Promotion Entities are not responsible for incomplete, misdirected, stolen, lost, mutilated, illegible postage due or late entries, mail or for human or technical errors or failures in the transmission or receipt of telephone entries. Subject to all federal, state and local laws and regulations.

PRIZES: (1) GRAND PRIZE: A trip for two to MTV Spring Break 2001 Headquarters, exact location TBD. Grand Prize includes 4-day/3 night double occupancy hotel accommodations, round trip economy class air travel to/from major airport nearest winner's home and MTV goodie bag. (2) Grand Prize Winner's minor parent/legal guardian must accompany him/her. All other expenses not specified herein are winner's responsibility. Trip must be taken during March 2001 spring break, on date to be specified by Sponsor or prize will be forfeited. Approximate retail value \$3,500.00. Actual value will depend on point of departure. All expenses not specified herein are the winner's responsibility. (300) Instant Win Prizes: A free Slim Jim "Eat Me!" T-shirt. Approximate retail value \$15 each. Total value of all prizes: \$10,500.00. Limit one (1) instant win prize per family/household. Prizes are not redeemable for cash or transferable, no prize substitutions allowed except by Sponsor who may award prizes of equal or greater value if the advertised prize is unavailable. All prizes will be awarded provided a sufficient number of eligible entries are received. All applicable taxes on prizes will be the responsibility of winners.

3. PROCEDURES: The 500 Instant Win Prizes will be awarded on an "Instant Win" basis upon entrants calling the "Beauty and the Beef" toll-free sweepstakes number. The Grand Prize random drawing will be on or about February 15, 2001. The random drawing will be selected from among all eligible entries received by The Creative Couch Companies, Inc., an independent judging organization whose decisions are final on all matters relating to this sweepstakes. Odds of winning an instant win prize depend on the number of calls received and the order in which they are received. The odds of winning the Grand Prize are dependent upon the total number of eligible entries received.

4. WINNERS: Winners will be notified by phone and/or mail. Grand Prize Winner and winner's parent/legal guardian if winner is a minor, will be required to sign and return an affidavit of eligibility and liability release with seven (7) days of prize notification. If winners excluded from publicity waiver, prize will be forfeited and a alternate winner will be selected. For Grand Prize Winner, send a stamped, self-addressed envelope to Slim Jim's "Beauty and the Beef" Sweepstakes "Winner's List" P.O. Box 641806, Los Angeles, CA 90064.

5. Each entrant by entering this sweepstakes agrees: (1) to abide by and be bound by these rules and the judge's decisions; (2) that the entry becomes the Sponsor's property and will not be returned; By accepting prizes, winner agrees that none of the titles, nor any of the officers, directors, employees, agents or representatives are responsible for claims, injuries, losses or damages of any kind resulting from or in connection with Sweepstakes participation or the acceptance, use, misuse or possession of any prize or participation in any prize related activities. Acceptance of a prize constitutes the grant of an irrevocable right to use winner's name, voice, likeness, photograph, prize information and/or statements about the promotion for any publicity, advertising and promotional purposes without additional compensation, except where prohibited by law. By accepting prizes, winners acknowledge and agree that the Entries have not made, nor are in any manner responsible or liable for any representations, warranty or guarantee, express or implied, in law or in fact, relative to any prize or portion thereof including but not limited to its quality, mechanical condition, or fitness for a particular purpose. Sponsor in its sole discretion reserves the right to disqualify any person tampering with the entry process or otherwise in violation of the rules. It further reserves the right to cancel, terminate or modify any game not capable of completion as planned due to technical failures of any sort.

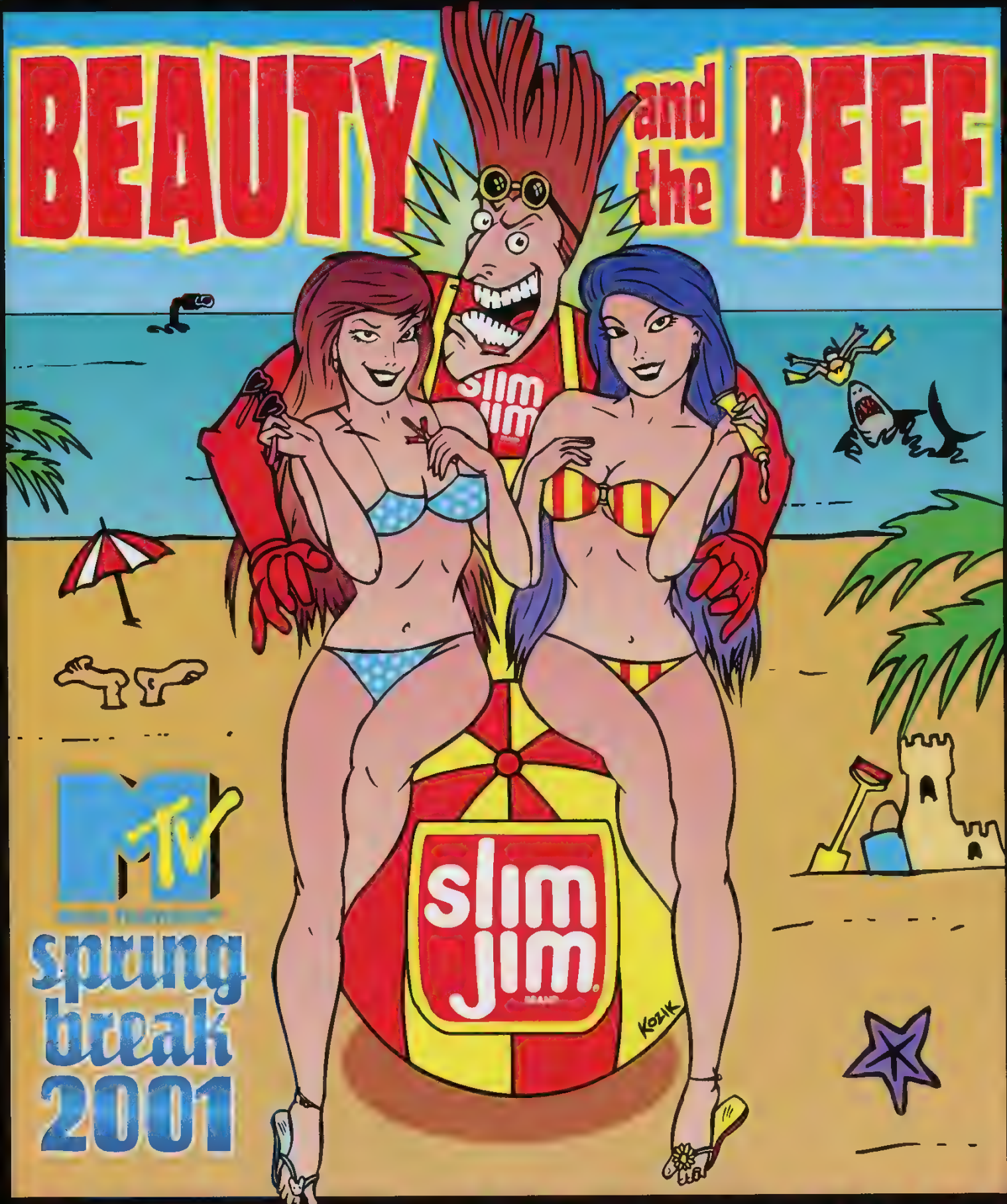
6. SPONSOR: Slim Jim (GoodMark Foods, Inc. 16131 Falls Of Neuse Rd., Raleigh, North Carolina 27609) © GoodMark Foods, Inc. Slim Jim & Slim Jim Guy are registered trademarks of GP Holdings, Inc. ©2000 ©2000 MTV Networks. All rights reserved. MTV Music Television is a trademark of MTV Networks, a division of Viacom International, Inc.



www.slimjim.com

1 888 4SLIM JIM

BEAUTY and the BEEF



MTV
spring
break
2001

**WIN A V.I.R. TRIP FOR TWO TO MTV SPRING BREAK 2001
OR 1 OF 500 OTHER INSTANT PRIZES!
TO ENTER
CALL 1 888 4SLIM JIM**

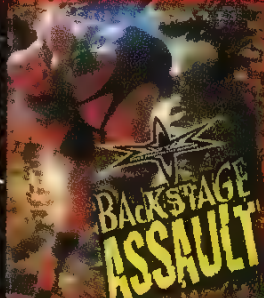
WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP WRESTLING

BACKSTAGE



BACKSTAGE ASSAULT

PlayStation 2





In the sequel to last year's highly successful WCW Mayhem, Electronic Arts is unveiling a wrestling game in which the ring is non-existent and the possibilities for hardcore action are endless



ELECTRONIC ARTS

Assault to the Senses

By Chad Damiani

Ever since good guys and bad guys stayed in separate locker rooms, members of the then-sective wrestling world knew backstage antics were often more enthralling than the in-ring storylines. Beyond the booking meetings and practical jokes, men would settle their differences with fists of fury in the bowels of countless arenas before they could be pulled apart by other wrestlers.

Before shows like Nitro and Thunder, professional wrestling rarely was seen on prime-time national television. And before the inception of wrestling schools such as the Power Plant, ex-convicts, bar brawlers and former college wrestling technicians with a partial education and a complete repertoire of painful holds littered the local wrestling card.

When these men got angry over a slight or grumpy from travel fatigue and sore muscles, the result usually was a fight, regardless of location or audience. According to veterans like Arn Anderson, Terry Funk and Rick Steiner, the best of these scraps always took place without referees, pyrotechnics and the roar of the ticket-holding masses.

After years of hiding these behind-the-curtain collisions, WCW finally realized fans not only longed to see the machinations of backstage politics, they preferred such battles instead of the more traditional action. WCW's hardcore division recently took to parking lots and public bathrooms; Vampiro has fought opponents in graveyards; catfights have broken out in dining

halls and in pits of mud.

In celebration of WCW's new direction, Electronic Arts is releasing WCW Backstage Assault, the first wrestling game to remove the ring and expand the action possibilities.

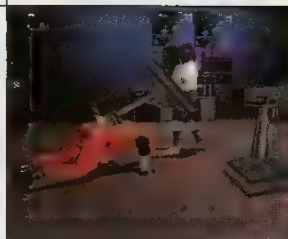
"Being the first company to offer an out-of-the-ring experience with last year's title (WCW Mayhem), it was a natural decision for us to create a completely interactive backstage wrestling experience," says Dean Elissat, product manager at EA.

WCW Backstage Assault has seven different interactive out-of-ring environments (each with three connecting rooms). Players can engage their wrestlers next to parked cars and in boiler rooms; utilize more than 40 items (pipes, 2x4s, crates, etc.); and take advantage of environmental hazards (fire,

Did you know?

- The PlayStation version of WCW Backstage Assault has 8,000 lines of play-by-play by Tony Schiavone and Bobby "The Brain" Heenan.
- When using the "Create A Superstar" option, players can change more than 39 details regarding a character, including whether there are holes in the knees of the wrestler's pants.
- Backstage Assault uses new inverse kinematics. The result: added realism when wrestlers of different heights battle.
- While Electronic Arts won't reveal the hidden characters in Backstage Assault, rumors abound that players will be surprised once they uncover all the hidden characters.
- Backstage Assault includes both "First Blood" and "Human Torch" matches.
- One weapon utilized in the game is a urinal. EA suggests players wash their hands after using this item.





Welcome to True Hardcore

One of Backstage Assault's most interesting challenges is the hardcore gauntlet. In this mode, players must face seven WCW opponents, one right after the other. Participants in the hardcore gauntlet quickly learn there is no rest between fights (leaving the user no opportunity to replenish his/her stamina), no option to replay a match that has been lost and no way to save progress. A player who successfully runs the gauntlet earns the right to access hidden characters in the game. What superstars are concealed within Electronic Arts' Assault locker room? You'll have to play to find out.



steam, etc.). According to Elissat, the addition of new toys and challenges enhances the action, but never compromises the physics and game-play mechanics of a traditional wrestling game. "Fans can have it all," he says. "In the Loading Bay, you can bounce off rubber tires like they're ring ropes, or climb and jump off crates as if they were turnbuckles in the Semi-Truck Arena."

Electronic Arts' dedication to maintaining the classic aspects of a wrestling game while offering unique battlegrounds goes far beyond the addition of a few environmental gimmicks. To assure Backstage Assault accurately depicted the moves and holds fans watch weekly on Nitro and Thunder, EA's motion capture specialists secured more than 800 animations for the game, utilizing WCW

talent to create precise movements and maneuvers. Users can execute these moves with more than 50 WCW superstars, including women and hidden characters. In addition, players can utilize the "Create a Superstar" option to build their own wrestler.

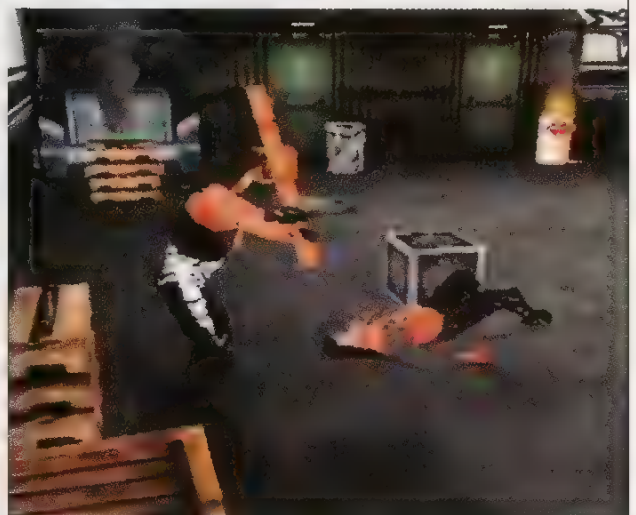
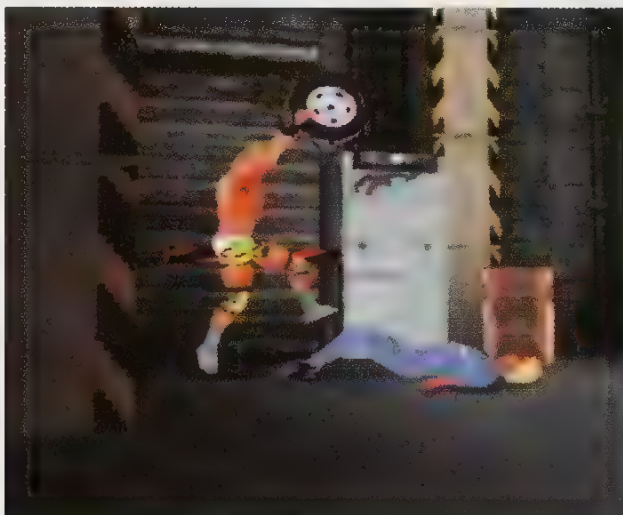
According to Elissat, players can even build their own female. Descriptions of the possibilities included "robust" and "marriage material."

If this game sounds enthralling, one of the reasons might be the backstage experience at Electronic Arts' impressive Vancouver, British Columbia, plant. From the high-tech sound studio in the basement (the most advanced collection of sound technology in North America) to the numerous soccer fields and basketball courts to the hundreds of teens and twenty-somethings doggedly reviewing

games for the slightest glitch, every cube and corner of EA's billion-dollar game machine pulses with creative energy and innovative minds.

Of course, the combination of vigor and strict deadlines can lead to wrestling-style sparks. "Someone should do a game on the behind-the-scenes squabbles happening at this place," jokes one product manager, who asked to remain anonymous. "We don't hit each other with pipes, but we fight over aspects of the game—music, everything you can imagine. It's the only way to make the best game possible."

To read more about WCW Backstage Assault for PlayStation and Nintendo 64, check out www.wcwbackstageassault.com



As a young child, Tylene Buck dreamed of becoming a model. Because she was painfully shy and her family was not wealthy, she never believed modeling would become a reality. In her most elaborate dreams, Buck never could have guessed that once she graduated from high school she would dive head-first into a successful fitness-modeling career and eventually join WCW, where she would transform into the camouflaged seductress known as Major Gunns.

Born and raised in Sacramento, California, Buck lived with her father growing up. When she reached her 10th birthday, Buck discovered the world of athletics. She moved to Arizona for a short time and joined the rodeo. "That was a lot of fun," Buck says. "I used to do Barrel and Pole, where you take your horse and run around barrels or poles as quickly as you can. I have tons of ribbons from the rodeo." Once she moved back to California, Buck became a talented softball player. When she was 14, Buck played on a team with the best softball players in her age group from around the nation. Buck also played soccer for a while in high school and made working out a way of life by the time she was 17. "When I was in school, I kept to myself and did my work," she says. "I didn't really hang out with the popular crowd because I was so shy."

Despite her timid demeanor, Buck discovered enduring love while she was in high school. She met the man who currently is her fiancé when she was 16. "I actually went to high school with his mecs, so he's an older man," Buck says. "But he's my true love and

my best friend. He's always been so supportive of me."

After Buck completed high school, her fiancé asked her what she wanted to do with her life. "When I told him I wanted to be a model, he told me that I should follow my dreams," she says.

Following her fiancé's advice, Buck began looking for modeling agencies. After fruitless searching and a few bad experiences with some agencies, Buck decided to take control of her future. She began contacting companies and photographers herself. "I was doing all the work on my own," she says. "I was doing everything I could to make my dreams come true."

Through hard work and her unyielding resolve to succeed, Buck broke into the modeling business. She started by appearing on covers for magazines such as *Truckin'* and *Mus Truckin'*. Buck also found success in bikini contests, where she lost her last traces of bashfulness. "Wearing a bikini in front of hundreds of people definitely helped me to stop being shy," Buck says. "Now I love being in front of an audience."

A fitness photographer discovered Buck on the bikini contest circuit. Awestruck with Buck's physique and beauty, the photographer introduced her to many fitness magazines. She began to appear in magazines such as *Muscular Development*, *Muscle Magazine* and *Ironman*. Shortly after Buck became the spokesperson for *Max Muscle* and wrote a monthly column on fitness and nutrition for the magazine.

One of the most exciting moments within this period of Buck's life was her appearance on the "Jenny Jones Show"



Once a shy teenager, Tylene Buck now soars with the superstars of WCW as Major Gunns

By Amy Bell Photography by Garrett Ellwood

As a young child, Tylene Buck dreamed of becoming a model. Because she was painfully shy and her family was not wealthy, she never believed modeling would become a reality. In her most elaborate dreams, Buck never could have guessed that once she graduated from high school she would dive head-first into a successful fitness-modeling career and eventually join WCW, where she would transform into the camouflaged seductress known as Major Gunns.

Born and raised in Sacramento, California, Buck lived with her father growing up. When she reached her 10th birthday, Buck discovered the world of athletics. She moved to Arizona for a short time and joined the rodeo. "That was a lot of fun," Buck says. "I used to do Barrel and Pole, where you take your horse and run around barrels or poles as quickly as you can. I have tons of ribbons from the rodeo." Once she moved back to California, Buck became a talented softball player. When she was 14, Buck played on a team with the best softball players in her age group from around the nation. Buck also played soccer for a while in high school and made working out a way a life by the time she was 17. "When I was in school, I kept to myself and did my work," she says. "I didn't really hang out with the popular crowd because I was so shy."

Despite her timid demeanor, Buck discovered enduring love while she was in high school. She met the man who currently is her fiancé when she was 16. "I actually went to high school with his nieces, so he's an older man," Buck says. "But he's my true love and

my best friend. He's always been so supportive of me."

After Buck completed high school, her fiancé asked her what she wanted to do with her life. "When I told him I wanted to be a model, he told me that I should follow my dreams," she says.

Following her fiancé's advice, Buck began looking for modeling agencies. After fruitless searching and a few bad experiences with some agencies, Buck decided to take control of her future. She began contacting companies and photographers herself. "I was doing all the work on my own," she says. "I was doing everything I could to make my dreams come true."

Through hard work and her unyielding resolve to succeed, Buck broke into the modeling business. She started by appearing on covers for magazines such as *Truckin'* and *Mini-Truckin'.* Buck also found success in bikini contests, where she lost her last traces of bashfulness. "Wearing a bikini in front of hundreds of people definitely helped me to stop being shy," Buck says. "Now I love being in front of an audience."

A fitness photographer discovered Buck on the bikini contest circuit. Awestruck with Buck's physique and beauty, the photographer introduced her to many fitness magazines. She began to appear in magazines such as *Muscular Development*, *Muscle Magazine* and *Ironman*. Shortly after, Buck became the spokesperson for Max Muscle and wrote a monthly column on fitness and nutrition for the magazine.

One of the most exciting moments within this period of Buck's life was her appearance on the "Jenny Jones Show."

Once a shy teenager, Tylene Buck now soars with the superstars of WCW as Major Gunns

By Amy Bell **Photography by Garrett Ellwood**





Smokin' Gunns





Tylene Buck and WCW MAGAZINE traveled to the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado for a photo session. We visited monuments honoring the Thunderbird and B-52 aircraft. Neither airship ever looked better in its heyday.

Tylene's workout routine and diet

"I usually work out five days a week. I do an hour and a half on the treadmill in addition to weight training. I try to stick to eating chicken, fish and vegetables. I try not to eat a lot of carbs because they tend to make women thick and chunky. It's a lot harder to eat properly and stay in shape when I'm on the road so much. I try to take protein shakes and protein bars when I'm on the road."

Website www.tylenebuck.com

"I was a guest on the show called 'Geek to Chic.' It was about people who used to be nerds but grow up to become famous and beautiful. People from high school were amazed at how much I had changed," she says with a laugh.

Although Buck's modeling career was taking off, something else was eating at her. "I had been wanting to get hooked up with wrestling for years," she says. "Wrestling has been a true love of mine since I was a little girl. I can remember watching Hulk Hogan and Kevin Nash and wishing I could meet them one day."

A close friend of Buck who lived in Los Angeles knew some people who work for WCW, including Nash and Hogan. "I told him I'd like to get into wrestling, and he introduced me to Kevin Nash. Nash invited me backstage

during Halloween Havoc in Las Vegas. It was absolutely amazing to meet everyone, but I still couldn't seem to find the right avenue to get in," she says.

A few months later, Buck's friend told her WCW was coming to Los Angeles to interview women for the show. "I found out that Terry Taylor (of the WCW talent management department) had been following my career and some other fitness girls' careers for a while," Buck says. "I was so excited. I hopped on a plane and flew straight to LA. I was very nervous because all the girls who were interviewing were so beautiful." A few hours after her interview, Buck received a telephone call from a WCW contact and discovered that she was one of six girls selected to join WCW.

On May 15, 2000, Buck made her first





appearance on WCW television as an nWo girl. "The nWo was really popular at the time, so it was very exciting to walk with those guys to the ring," Buck says. "I learned so much about the business from Nash when I worked with him. Nash is so down to earth, and he made things so easy and relaxing for me."

Once the nWo dissolved, Buck joined Midajah O'Hearn as a valet for Jeff Jarrett. "I'm really happy that I got to work with Jeff," Buck says. "I used to love to watch him do his promos. He's so great at getting into character, and he was very patient with us girls."

In typical wrestling fashion, the storylines changed and Buck became a valet for Scott Steiner. Eventually Buck was removed from Steiner's group to become an interview girl. "I liked doing the interviews, but I love being in front of people and hamming it up. I missed being in front of the crowd," she says.

Buck next found herself without a character or storyline. "When WCW called me and told me they still didn't have a storyline for me after a few weeks, I cried and cried. I thought

my wrestling career was over," she says. "I begged them to give me any part at all in the storyline. I was trying everything I could think of to get back into WCW."

A few weeks later, Buck received a telephone call. WCW wanted her to return, and she was ecstatic. "They asked me if I had any combat boots and camouflage. I said, 'What?'" When she returned to WCW, Buck met her new teammates, the Misfits in Action.

"I found out it was the MIA guys who requested that I come back," Buck says. "They asked where I had been because they wanted me to be a part of their team. I was amazed because I didn't really know them that well," Buck says. "They all are really great guys."

Although Buck was thrilled to be working with the Misfits, she was less than pleased with her new moniker. "They told me that my new name would be Torpedo Girl," she says with a laugh. "I asked Vince Russo if I could change that name if I came up with something better. He said I could, so I started asking



Tylene on men "I'm not so much into just looks. I mean, my fiancé is gorgeous, but that doesn't mean everything to me. I look into a man's eyes to see what's in his soul. My fiancé has a big heart and he spoils me rotten."





Tylene backstage at WCW events "I don't really hang out with one particular person. It's like a big family, and we all talk to and respect each other. There really aren't any cliques within WCW. I can talk to anybody and everybody."





everyone for suggestions. We eventually came up with Major Gunns."

Buck feels grateful to be back in the spotlight, and she is enjoying her new character. "Major Gunns is a total babyface," Buck says. "She's a sweet girl, but she won't back down either. She's a powerful girl, just like I am, but she's not vicious. She has a heart of gold, and she'll do anything to make a bad situation good."

Buck is delighted that she has the opportunity to train in the Power Plant, WCW's training facility, with the rest of WCW's female stars. "I've always wanted to learn to wrestle," she says. "Until you're a part of it, you don't really understand the sport of wrestling. Now I wrestle almost every week and I'm thrilled to death."

As a result of her entertaining matches and sculpted physique, Buck's career is skyrocketing. But she knows better than to credit her

fame to anyone other than her fans. "I get a rush interacting with my fans, seeing all their smiles and faces. If it weren't for my fans, I wouldn't be where I am," she says.

Although Buck has gained many adoring fans, her most faithful fan is someone she's known all her life. "My mom is my biggest fan," she says. "When I first joined WCW, my mom was happy for me, but she wasn't really a wrestling fan. Now she not only watches me, but she watches the entire show. Every show I've been on, she has it on tape."

Unlike many female stars who hope to use WCW as a stepping stone to further their entertainment careers, Buck says she would be content to remain a fixture in the wrestling world. "I'd love to do TV and movies eventually, but wrestling always will be my first love," she says. "I want to stay with WCW and be known as one of the biggest women wrestlers of all time." ♦



NITRO GIRLS Spotlight

Real name
Jennifer

Joined WCW
May 2000

Measurements
36/26/37

Height
5'9"

Weight
135 pounds

Birthday
April 28

Hometown
Sever Beach, California

Residence
Las Vegas

Marital status
Single



WCW MAGAZINE

Starr

Photography by
Garrett Ellwood

Education Attended Allan Hancock College in Santa Maria, California for two years.

Previous jobs "I did one small movie called 'Last Dance.' I did a world tour with James Brown for five years and then I worked in Las Vegas and did a couple shows. I lived in France for six months and danced in Monte Carlo. I still freelance in Vegas."

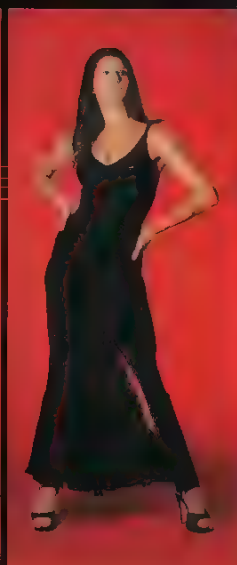
How I became a Nitro Girl! "I was recommended by Sharnell Sullivan (Paisley). I worked with her on James Brown's tour. Sharnell hooked up an audition for me."

The best part about being a Nitro Girl! "I like the flexibility. I like that you can come to work for a few days and then you have lots of time to yourself. I also love the energy from the crowd."

Favorite song to dance to "Feel Like A Woman" by Shania Twain

Favorite wrestler Sergeant A-WALL

Hobbies/interests beside dancing "I love the ocean and outdoor sports such as beach volleyball and swimming. I also love horseback riding. Basically anything outside."



NITRO GIRLS Spotlight

Real name

Jennifer

Joined WCW

May 2000

Measurements

36-26-37

Height

5'9"

Weight

135 pounds

Birthdate

April 28

Hometown

Grover Beach, California

Residence

Las Vegas

Marital status

Single



Starr

Photography by

Garrett Ellwood

Education

Attended Allan Hancock College in Santa Maria, California for two years.

Previous jobs

"I did one small movie called 'Last Dance.' I did a world tour with James Brown for five years and then I worked in Las Vegas and did a couple shows. I lived in France for six months and danced in Monte Carlo. I still freelance in Vegas."

How I became a Nitro Girl

"I was recommended by Sharmell Sullivan (Paisley); I worked with her on James Brown's tour. Sharmell hooked up an audition for me."

The best part about being a Nitro Girl

"I like the flexibility. I like that you can come to work for a few days and then you have lots of time to yourself. I also love the energy from the crowd."

Favorite song to dance to

"Feel Like A Woman" by Shania Twain.

Favorite wrestler

Sergeant A-WALL.

Hobbies/interests beside dancing

"I love the ocean and outdoor sports such as beach volleyball and swimming. I also love horseback riding. Basically anything outside."







What I look for in a man "A sense of humor is really important. Somebody who is able to make me laugh and who laughs at life, because you have to."

Turn-ons "A nice physique and a great smile. Beautiful teeth really matter to me—and you have to have all of your teeth."

Turn-offs "Someone that isn't a good listener and just talks over me; bad shoes."

Motto "What goes around comes around—it's so true in life. And the other is: Wherever you go, there you are—so you can't escape yourself."

Ambitions "I would love to go back to school; I'm just trying to nail down what I'd like to study. I know it's probably going to be something in sports medicine. I'd also like to open a dance studio and teach someday in California."

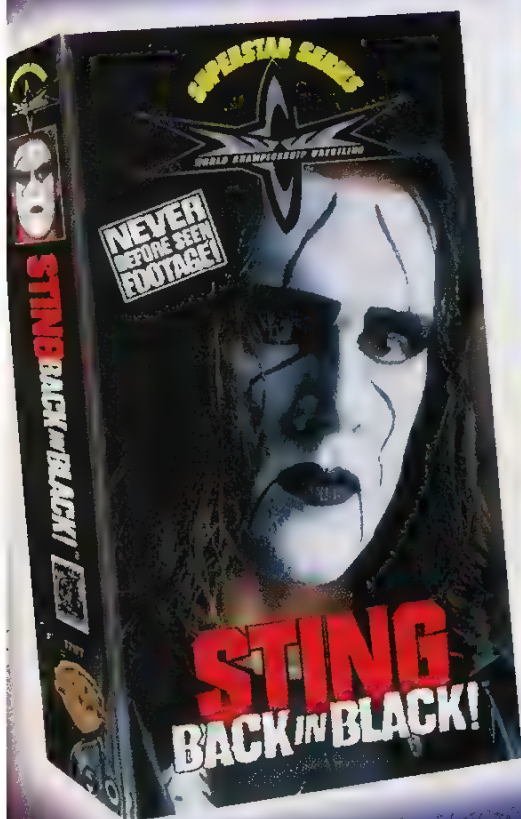
Role model "This may sound silly, but I love Oprah Winfrey. She's really an intelligent, articulate, insightful person. She's very open to learning and to changing her life and making it better, and I respect that about her."

My best quality "I'm a great listener."

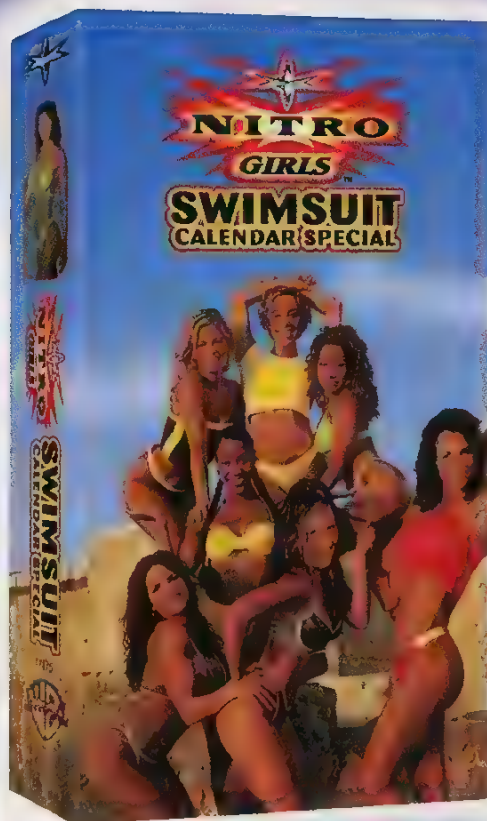
Nobody knows that I . . . "am very sensitive. My exterior is so strong that I think people perceive me that way, but I'm actually very sensitive. I'll go home and cry about it later—but I don't show it." ♦

BABES BRAWLERS & BRUISERS

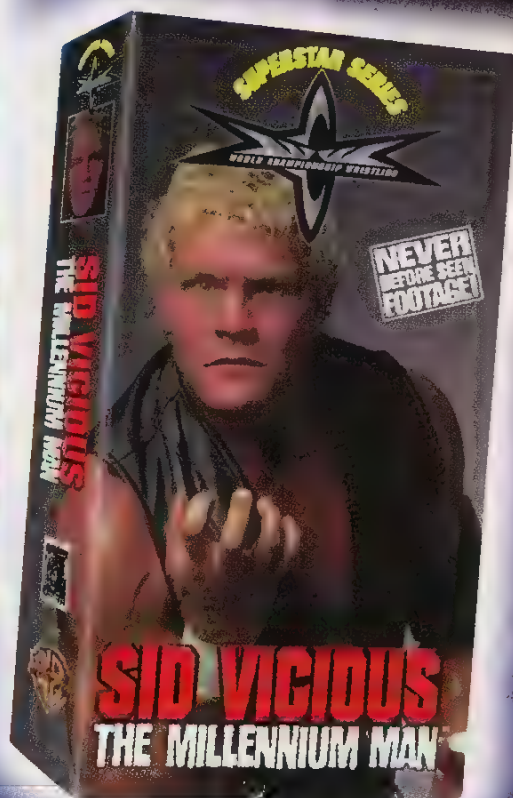
ON SALE
EVERYWHERE
NOW!



SUPERSTAR SERIES: STING!
He's back in black for more!
Follow Sting's triumphant
heavyweight title reign
and much more!
Item #STG W 201 VID \$20.00



**THE NITRO GIRLS SWIMSUIT
CALENDAR SPECIAL**
Go behind the scenes on their
teamy calendar photo shoot
and find out how these
girls have fun!
Item #TNT W 200 VID \$20.00



SUPERSTAR SERIES: SID VICIOUS
Returning to WCW to resume
his rampage of terror, 6-foot-8,
318 pound, Sid Vicious
dismantles anything in his path.
Item #SID W 200 VID \$20.00

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP WRESTLING

©2000 World Championship Wrestling, Inc.
a Time Warner Company. All rights reserved.
Distributed by Warner Home Video.
©2000 Warner Home Video.
All wrestler names depicted herein are
trademarks of or used under
license by WCW, Inc.

Source Code:
WCW VID 06



ORDER TOLL FREE

1-800-929-8468

Matt Pitzer, a fan from Webster Groves, Missouri, poses the following questions for this month's interview. He asks:

1. Who has been the most influential person in your career?

The Demon

1. If Gene Simmons and KISS didn't do the things they did in the rock business, I probably never would have gotten into wrestling, because I wanted to do both sports and entertainment—so it's a perfect match. Meeting Hulk Hogan in an airport was important because he gave me advice on how to start in the business.

2. Meeting my fiancée, Asya.

2. What is the best aspect of being a professional wrestler?

Sean O'Haire

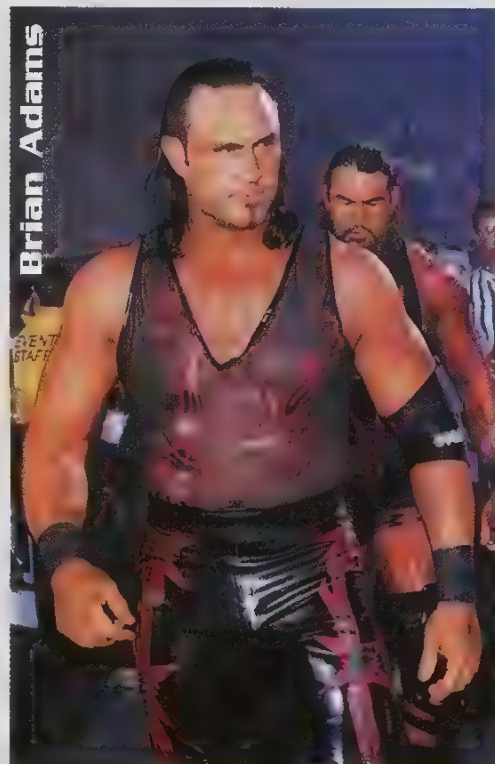
1. Paul Orndorff. He's the one who got me started and pushed me and believed in me while I was training at the Power Plant.

2. I get to do all of the things I used to do for free, like fighting in bars, and now I get paid to do it in front of people.

Big Vito

1. It's a combination of people. When I was a young guy breaking in on WWF television, Bret Hart roughed me up pretty good. The next time he saw me he apologized and treated me like a pro. I have worked with a lot of veterans, guys like Nikolai Volkoff, Ivan Koloff, The Iron Sheik, Cousin Luke, Demolition, the list goes on. All of the veterans gave me constructive criticism, and it's helped me become a good pro.

2. I would say it's that people look up to you because you are in the limelight. You always have to carry yourself professionally and remember to leave the



ring stuff in the ring. I also like the traveling and meeting different types of people.

Tank Abbott

1. I'd say Bill Goldberg.

2. It's just a great big party.

Brian Adams

1. The Road Warriors. When I was growing up in Kona, Hawaii, I would watch them and I always wanted to be like them.

2. The thrill of living a dream and getting in the ring and doing what I want to do.

Jeff Jarrett

1. The VCR—watching tapes of myself.

2. Ultimate creativity and performing. It's like no other sport or form of entertainment.

Shane Douglas

1. Ricky Steamboat. When I was about seven years into my career, I was paired with him.



Crowbar



He was able to teach me all the aspects of how to be a main-eventer. Terry Funk really helped me learn to be a heel.

2. The fact we get to make a very lucrative career doing something we love. Also, it's a tremendous feeling per-

forming in front of a crowd, especially as a heel, because you control the crowd's emotions.

Shane Helms

1. Matt Hardy and Chris Kanyon.

2. This is what I have always wanted to do, so the best part is living the dream.

Crowbar

1. If I had to narrow it down, I would say General Rection, Jim Powers and Diamond Dallas Page. I also had a lot of help from Jimmy Hart. Also Vince Russo, Ed Ferrara and Bill Banks for creating Crowbar.

2. It's that I entertain myself and it's a pleasure to do what I'm doing.

Lance Storm

1. "Champagne" Gerry Morrow, who worked in Stampede Wrestling quite a few years back and in Japan, taught me ring psychology and gave me a clue as to what wrestling was all about.

2. The travel. I have been to Europe

and Japan and Mexico—a lot of places I never would have been otherwise.

Vampiro

1. My wife. Knowing that I have to be responsible, she has really helped me take my career more seriously.

2. I get to travel a lot and meet a lot of people all over the country.

Kidman

1. I don't think there is one specific person, but growing up I watched Shawn Michaels and Bret Hart, and I just wanted to get in the ring and perform like those guys.

2. Good fringe benefits. You get into clubs for free, you don't have to wait in line and you get free drinks.

Corporal Cajun

1. Jody Hamilton (The Assassin).

2. The Shakespeare—the manipulation of being able to make the fans feel one thing or another at a moment's notice.



Jeff Jarrett

DAVID DUROCH-HKWCW

Here's Your Hook Up For The Latest Gear From WCW



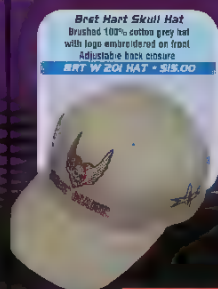
Goldberg Royal Hat
Royal Blue 100% cotton twill hat with gold metallic stitching. Adjustable back closure.
GLO W 202 HAT • \$15.00



Goldberg Platinum Hat
Brushed 100% cotton hat with logo on front and back. Adjustable back closure.
GLO W 202 HAT • \$20.00



Scorpion Tail Hat
100% cotton twill hat with logo embroidered on front. Adjustable back closure.
SGL W 202 HAT • \$15.00



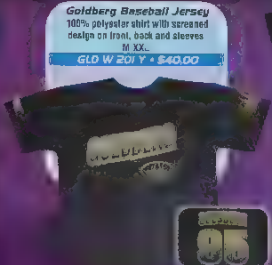
Bret Hart Skull Hat
Brushed 100% cotton grey hat with logo embroidered on front. Adjustable back closure.
BRT W 202 HAT • \$15.00



3 Count T-Shirt
100% black cotton shirt with screen design on front and back.
3CT W 202 T • \$20.00



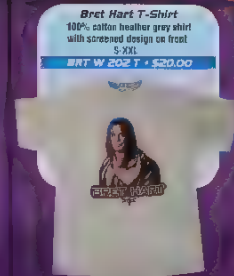
Goldberg Royal T-Shirt
100% cotton royal blue shirt with screen design on front.
GLO W 202 T • \$20.00



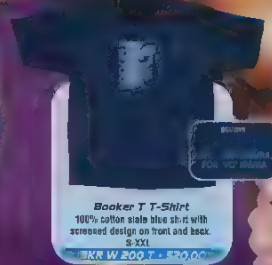
Goldberg Baseball Jersey
100% polyester shirt with screen design on front, back and sleeves.
GLO W 202 J • \$40.00



Scorpion Face T-Shirt
100% black cotton with screen design on front.
SGL W 202 T • \$20.00



Bret Hart T-Shirt
100% cotton heather grey shirt with screen design on front.
BRT W 202 T • \$20.00



Booker T T-Shirt
100% cotton steel blue shirt with screen design on front and back.
BTR W 202 T • \$20.00



Big Red Booty Daddy T-Shirt
100% cotton cranberry shirt with screen design on front and back.
POP W 202 T • \$20.00



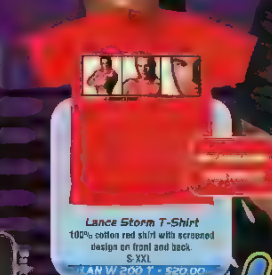
Daffney Screamer Tank Top
100% black cotton tank top with screen design on front.
DAF W 200 TMD • \$20.00



Rick Steiner Bite Me T-Shirt
100% black cotton shirt with screen design on front and back.
SGL W 202 T • \$20.00



Slap Nuts T-Shirt
100% black cotton shirt with screen design on front and back.
JAR N 202 T • \$20.00



Lance Storm T-Shirt
100% cotton red shirt with screen design on front and back.
LAN W 202 T • \$20.00



1.800.929.8468

WCW.COM

057066260068

Here's Your For The Latest Gear



Goldberg Royal Hat
Royal Blue 100% cotton twill hat
with gold metallic stitching.
Adjustable back closure.
GLD W 204 HAT • \$15.00



Goldberg Platinum Hat
Brushed 100% cotton hat with logo
embroidered on front and bill.
Adjustable back closure.
GLD W 203 HAT • \$20.00



Scorpion Tail Hat
100% cotton twill hat with
logo embroidered on front.
Adjustable back closure.
STG W 203 HAT • \$15.00



Goldberg Royal T-Shirt
100% cotton royal blue shirt
with screened design on front.
S-XXL
GLD W 211 T • \$20.00



Goldberg Baseball Jersey
100% polyester shirt with screened
design on front, back and sleeves.
M-XXL
GLD W 201 Y • \$40.00



Scorpion Face T-Shirt
100% black cotton with
screened design on front.
S-XXL
STG W 212 T • \$20.00



Big Bad Booty Daddy T-Shirt
100% cotton cranberry shirt with
screened design on front and back.
S-XXL
POP W 201 T • \$20.00



Daffney Screamer Tank Top
100% black cotton tank top with
screened design on front.
One size fits most.
DAF W 200 TMD • \$20.00



Rick Steiner Bite Me T-Shirt
100% black cotton shirt with screened
design on front and back.
S-XXL
STN W 200 T • \$20.00

Hook Up From WCW

Bret Hart Skull Hat
Brushed 100% cotton grey hat
with logo embroidered on front.
Adjustable back closure.

BRT W 201 HAT • \$15.00



3 Count T-Shirt

100% black cotton shirt with screened
design on front and back.
S-XXL.

TCT W 200 T • \$20.00

**Free Bret Hart Bean Bag
Brawler with the purchase of a
Bret Hart T-Shirt and Hat**

Bret Hart T-Shirt

100% cotton heather grey shirt
with screened design on front.
S-XXL.

BRT W 202 T • \$20.00



Booker T T-Shirt

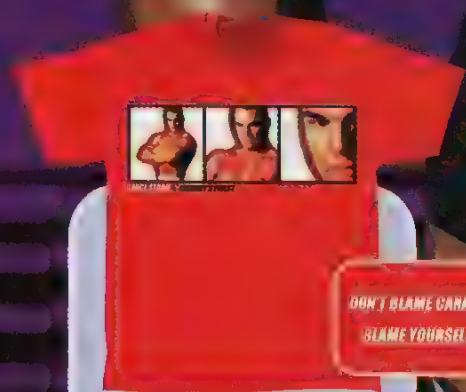
100% cotton slate blue shirt with
screened design on front and back.
S-XXL.

BKR W 200 T • \$20.00

Slap Nuts T-Shirt

100% black cotton shirt with screened
design on front and back.
S-XXL.

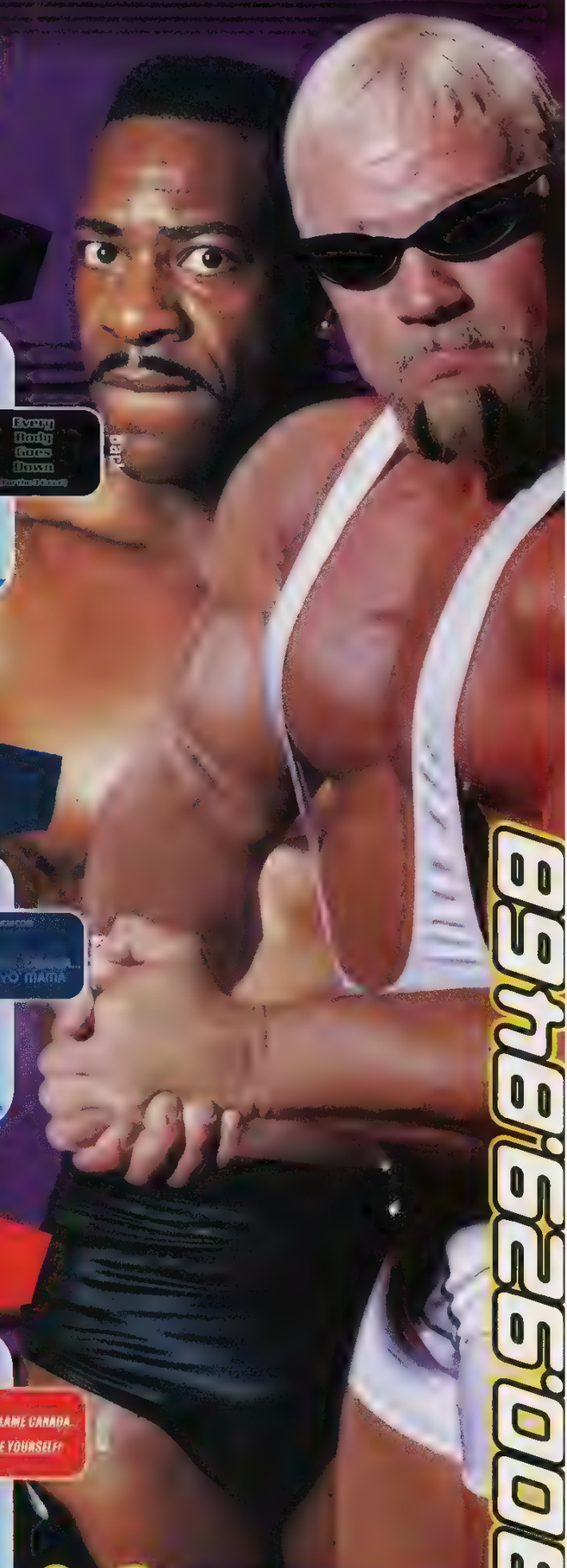
JAR N 200 T • \$20.00



Lance Storm T-Shirt

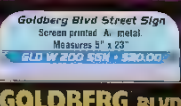
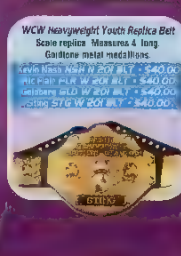
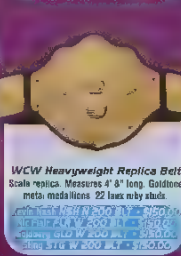
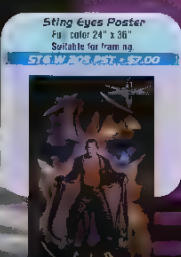
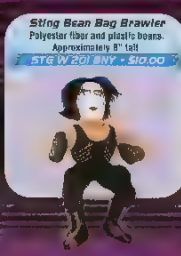
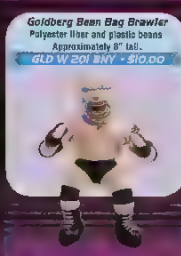
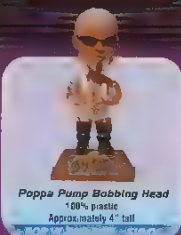
100% cotton red shirt with screened
design on front and back.
S-XXL.

LAN W 200 T • \$20.00



857-616-2610 0081

WCW.COM

[illegible]

6 Ways to Pay!

☐ MasterCard ☐ Discover Card

☐ VISA ☐ Amex

☐ Check ☐ Money Order

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____

ZIP _____

PHONE _____

NAME _____

SIGNATURE _____

EXPIRATION DATE _____

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____

ZIP _____

PHONE _____

Mail To: WCW Catalog



Slap Nuts Pennant
Full color collectors pennant.
Approximately 30" in length.

JAR W 200 PNT • \$5.00



Big Poppa Pump Pennant
Full color collectors pennant.
Approximately 30" in length.

POP W 203 PNT • \$5.00



Poppa Pump Bobbling Head
100% plastic.
Approximately 4" tall.

POP W 200 BOB • \$10.00

Goldberg "Stars" Pennant
Full color collectors pennant.
Approximately 30" in length.

GLD W 201 PNT • \$5.00



Goldberg Bobbling Head
100% plastic.
Approximately 4" tall.

GLD W 200 BOB • \$10.00



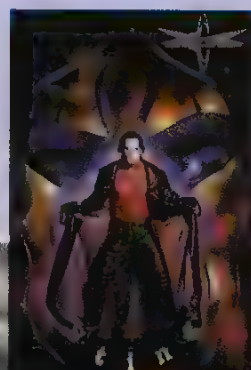
Kevin Nash Bobbling Head
100% plastic.
Approximately 4" tall.

NSH W 200 BOB • \$10.00



Sting Eyes Poster
Full color 24" x 36".
Suitable for framing.

STG W 203 PST • \$7.00



Sting Bobbling Head
100% plastic.
Approximately 4" tall.

STG W 200 BOB • \$10.00



SLAPNUTS BLVD

Slap Nuts Blvd Street Sign
Screen printed. All metal.
Measures 5" x 23"

JAR W 200 SEN • \$20.00

Goldberg Blvd Street Sign
Screen printed. All metal.
Measures 5" x 23"

GLD W 200 SEN • \$20.00

GOLDBERG BLVD

WWE.COM

Booker T Bean Bag Brawler
Polyester fiber and plastic beans.
Approximately 8" tall.

BKR W 200 BNY + \$10.00



Buff Bagwell Bean Bag Brawler
Polyester fiber and plastic beans.
Approximately 8" tall.

BUG W 200 BNY + \$10.00



Poppa Pump Bean Bag Brawler
Polyester fiber and plastic beans.
Approximately 8" tall.

POP W 200 BNY + \$10.00



Jeff Jarrett Bean Bag Brawler
Polyester fiber and plastic beans.
Approximately 8" tall.

JAR W 200 BNY + \$10.00



Goldberg Bean Bag Brawler
Polyester fiber and plastic beans.
Approximately 8" tall.

GLD W 200 BNY + \$10.00



Free with the purchase of a
Bret Hart T-Shirt and Hat

Bret Hart Bean Bag Brawler
Polyester fiber and plastic beans.
Approximately 8" tall.

BHT W 200 BNY + \$10.00



Sting Bean Bag Brawler
Polyester fiber and plastic beans.
Approximately 8" tall.

STW W 200 BNY + \$10.00



Vampiro Bean Bag Brawler
Polyester fiber and plastic beans.
Approximately 8" tall.

VAM W 200 BNY + \$10.00



WCW Replica Belt
Attaches around the waist with velcro.
One size fits most.

WCW W 200 BNY + \$15.00



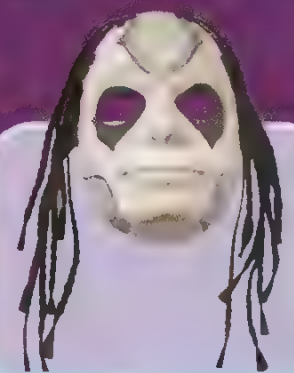
WCW Heavyweight Replica Belt
Scale replica. Measures 4' 8" long. Goldtone
metal medallions. 22 faux ruby studs.

WCW H W 200 BNY + \$40.00
WCW H W 200 BNY + \$40.00
WCW H W 200 BNY + \$40.00



WCW Heavyweight Youth Replica Belt
Scale replica. Measures 4' long.
Goldtone metal medallions.

WCW Y W 200 BNY + \$40.00
WCW Y W 200 BNY + \$40.00
WCW Y W 200 BNY + \$40.00



Vampiro Mask
8" tall with braided hair attachments.
One size fits most.

VAM W 200 MSK + \$10.00

Ship to:

Name _____ CA please add tax _____
Address _____ Shipping, Handling, (see box left) _____
City _____ Overnight Charges (+\$8.50) _____
State _____ Overnight to Alaska & Hawaii (+\$16.00) _____
Zip _____

Source Code MAG067

6 Ways to Pay!

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> MasterCard | <input type="checkbox"/> Discover Card |
| <input type="checkbox"/> VISA | <input type="checkbox"/> Amex |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Check | <input type="checkbox"/> Money Order |

Money order or money order payable to WCW Catalog
must be cashed within 60 days after receipt.
All orders are subject to credit review and hold.
All orders are subject to credit review and hold.
All orders are subject to credit review and hold.

NAME _____
SIGNATURE _____
EXPIRATION DATE _____

NAME _____
SIGNATURE _____
EXPIRATION DATE _____

Mail To: WCW Catalog
P.O. Box 2437, Smyrna, GA 30081-2437

David Flair's Immaturity Exposed

By Tony Schiavone

The recent David Flair/Stacy Keibler saga brings up some interesting points about a young man not ready for the limelight of sports entertainment. Since Keibler announced she was pregnant, David's focus has been on being a father and husband and not a wrestler.

That is understandable for many reasons, the main one being that David has been forced to become a wrestler. Although you can't point to one singular person or event, the mere pressure of being the son of Ric Flair took David out of any other vocation and put him in the ring. When I say David is not ready to be a wrestler, I'm not talking about the physical aspects, I'm talking about the mental aspects needed in and out of the ring.

His recent tirade backstage was a perfect

example of the lack of maturity needed to be successful. His repeated confrontations with the line, "Are you the father?" kept reminding me of Dr. Seuss' classic book, "Are You My Mother?" That's the one in which a baby bird fell out of the nest and kept asking everything

he saw if it was his mother. David's badgering was pathetic, but don't blame him. He's been thrust into the spotlight, and the pressure has been too much for the 21-year-old to handle.

As funny as it might sound, the only level-headed person in this whole story is Mike Tenay. His brutally honest interviews with David, Keibler and Ric have been on target. He may not have been

the first to realize the marriage would not last six months, but he was the first to vocalize it.

When Tenay asked the "Nature Boy" if he



Is Ric Flair about to become a father again?

AIR WAVES

The first column—it's kind of like a first date or the first day on a new job. As that old shampoo commercial so eloquently stated: "You never get a second chance to make a first impression." Since I am relatively new to broadcasting wrestling, my first column will take a look at the men who helped shape my style. I present my Top 10 wrestling announcers ever:

10 Craig Johnson: The former United States Wrestling Association and Global Wrestling Federation play-by-play man brought excitement and humor to the broadcast booth. Johnson was equally adept at calling a spectacular high-flying match or a 10-minute side headlock. Johnson has gone on to become an Emmy award-winning sports producer.

9 Joey Styles: It's not easy announcing matches with a partner—or two. Believe me, I know. To do it successfully solo takes real talent. It's not a coincidence that two of WCW's newest and brightest stars

(Lance Storm, Mike Awesome) got their first big break with Styles announcing their matches.

8 Mark Madden: What? Madden on my list? Remember, Madden went from never having announced a wrestling match in his life to being thrown live onto Nitro. From the first broadcast, Madden seemed like he was born to be right where he is.

7 Jim Ross: Ross worked his way up the ladder from ring crew to referee to announcer to executive. While it's true he has achieved his greatest success away from WCW, his ability to bring a degree of legitimacy to what can be a very undignified sport at times cannot be understated.

6 Larry Zbyszko: Zbyszko still is a living legend after 30 glorious years. As the only former full-time wrestler on my list, Zbyszko brings a slant to color commentary no one else can. He was involved in pro wrestling in the 1970s, '80s and '90s, and has seen the evolution into sports entertainment first-hand.

By Scott Hudson

Ten Whose Work Speaks Volumes





David Flair has been a wreck since being left at the altar by Stacy Keibler.

was the father, the entire announcing team almost fainted. Tenay had the nerve to ask the question the whole world wanted asked. When Keibler said she was pregnant, the first thing I thought was that Ric was the dad and not David. Did I have any proof? No, it just crossed my mind. It crossed everyone's mind.

By the time you read this, we might have found out who the father is. We may have found out that Keibler was not pregnant at all. Hell, Ric and Stacy may have even run off together. However, the one thing we will know is that David has a lot of growing to do before he can become a successful competitor in sports entertainment.

And I'm not talking about between the ropes; I'm talking about between the ears. ♦

Contact Tony Schiavone by e-mail at nitro.tony@turner.com

5 Bobby "The Brain" Heenan: Heenan progressed from wrestler (a memorable feud with Ted the Wrestling Bear in 1970) to manager (the Heenan Family had a run in almost every territory) to one of the most famous announcers of all time. It's hard to imagine that Nitro would have skyrocketed to the top of the wrestling world without Heenan's color commentary. I encourage you to listen to Heenan on WCW Worldwide and, after you stop guffawing, reflect on what he said. Believe it or not, Heenan is a brain after all.

4 Mike Tenay: Tenay is the Bob Costas of wrestling in the sense that he's a purist, a historian and, above all, a fan. Tenay long will be remembered for introducing Luche Libre and the Luchadors to mainstream American audiences. Prior to his death, Gordon Solie noted his last regret as not having the opportunity to mentor Tenay and make

him the best wrestling announcer of all time. Gordon, with all due respect, Mike didn't need the help.

3 Tony Schiavone: The voice of wrestling for those who discovered the sport on TBS in the 1980s and early '90s. Schiavone has seen the ups (the nWo, Goldberg) and the downs (Mighty Wilbur, Jimmy "Boogie Woogie Man" Valiant) of wrestling over the last 17 years and has endured. Schiavone cannot be fooled behind the mic. He is a real announcer who does professional wrestling rather than a professional wrestling announcer. I am proud to count him as a mentor and a friend.

2 Lance Russell: Those who remember Russell hosting "WCW Pro" with Diamond Dallas Page in the early 1990s got only a small taste of what made the voice of Memphis wrestling second on my list. Russell's righteous indignation at the antics of scoundrels like

Jerry Lawler, coupled with his flag-waving advocacy of the fair-haired Memphis boys like Jeff Jarrett, made Monday night at Mid-South Coliseum a must-see affair.

1 Gordon Solie: The best. As a kid, I didn't want to be Terry Bradshaw or Carl Yastrzemski, I wanted to be Gordon Solie. I wanted to host three different wrestling programs a week in three different states. Longtime fans can recite verbatim the Solie-isms that kept us glued to the TV on Saturday nights. Say them with me: "His face is rapidly becoming a crimson mask. ... He'd fight a buzz saw and give it the first two rounds." What wrestling fan hasn't done a Solie impression? The measure of a man is not what he accomplished, it is how he is remembered. Gordon still lives larger than life. ♦

Contact Scott Hudson by e-mail at nitro.scott@turner.com

Even in Final Days, Solie Thought of Others



By Mike
Tenay

“His analysis of my work was the primary focus of our conversations. It was obvious he cared about my future.”

When I began traveling extensively with WCW six years ago, I worked on peripheral projects such as “Backstage Pass” for the WCW Hotline. I progressed to televised interviews and even did some color commentary on pay-per-view events, primarily for matches involving international talent from Mexico and Japan.

When I initially joined WCW’s television team, I was thrilled just to use the words “my broadcast colleagues.” That’s not surprising, given WCW’s broadcasters at the time: Gene Okerlund, Bobby Heenan, Larry Zbyszko, Dusty Rhodes, Tony Schiavone, Jesse Ventura and Gordon Solie.

I vividly recall being welcomed by Okerlund and Heenan. I fondly recount the war stories from Zbyszko and Rhodes. I remember breaking bread with Schiavone and Ventura. But I will never forget the sincere advice offered by Solie.

The phrase “sports entertainment” has taken the place of the antiquated “pro wrestling” in recent years, and I often have thought just how appropriate it is. You see, pro wrestling can be as competitive as sports and as cutthroat as the world of entertainment.

Jobs are at a premium, and a high premium at that. New blood, whether in the form of a wrestler fresh from the Power Plant or even a fledgling announcer, are looked at with contempt accompanied by a questioning raised eyebrow. It’s the nature of the business. It’s how it always has been and always will be. The hiring of a new guy usually is accompanied by the firing of someone established. Genuine help to the new guy on the block is rare—more often, it is a case of letting him sink or swim.

That is why I was dumfounded when Solie approached me at the hotel bar after Halloween Havoc in Detroit in 1994 to offer both criticism and encouragement. No, this wasn’t the usual glad-handing B.S. that goes with the territory.

This was constructive criticism, what I was doing right and, more importantly, what I was doing wrong. And the source was a man that had announced more wrestling matches than anyone else on the planet.

As my role with the company increased, Solie’s decreased. He continued to travel with WCW for another year or so as the voice of national radio broadcasts of the monthly pay-per-view events. Every time we spoke, his analysis of my work was the primary focus of our conversations. It was obvious he cared about my future.

Those heartfelt chats were the first thing that came to my mind when I heard of Gordon Solie’s passing in July. The voice of professional wrestling was found dead at his Tampa, Florida, home at the age of 71, a victim of brain cancer.

In the days after his death, journalists interviewed Solie’s friends and co-workers. Among them was Howard Brody, a long-time Florida-based wrestling promoter and current president of the National Wrestling Alliance. Brody recalled a conversation he had with Solie just days before his passing. Solie, recognizing his place in wrestling history, talked about the future of the craft he had mastered. He mentioned a special fondness for me and he regretted that he couldn’t have spent more time working with me.

I was both pleased and shocked when I read those words. Pleased because this icon of our business had recognized my work as significant enough to mention, yet shocked because as his health failed in his final hours, his focus was on helping and promoting others.

In retrospect, I guess I shouldn’t have been shocked. I should have expected it from him.

Rest in peace, Gordon Solie, and thanks for not being reluctant to pass the torch. ♦

Contact Mike Tenay by e-mail at professor@turner.com

Beverly has never attended riding school, but that's never stopped her from giving lessons.



THE AMERICAN IRONHORSE MOTORCYCLE COMPANY

American IronHorse Motorcycles are available at these dealers:

Alamo Cycle Plex
San Antonio, TX

Alternative Bike Works
Springdale, AR

American Discount Cycle Mart, Inc.
Waterford, MI

Apache Motorcycle
Weatherford, TX

Bikers Boulevard
Raleigh, NC

Bikers Dream
Atlanta, GA
Long Island, NY

Blues City Cycles
Memphis, TN

Canyon Cycle
Agoura Hills, CA

Classic Cycles
Gulfport, MS

Coleman Motorcycle Co.
Dothan, AL

Craven County Motor Sports
New Bern, NC

Custom Hawg Parts and Accessories
Scarborough, ME

Cycle World
Baltimore, MD

Desert Motorsports
Scottsdale, AZ

DFW American IronHorse
Bedford, TX

East Coast IronHorse
North Charleston, SC

Easyriders
Columbus, OH
Denver, CO
Houston, TX
Salt Lake City, UT
Springfield, MO

Golden Triangle Cycle Ctr.
Beaumont, TX

Griffin Motorsport
Schenectady, NY

Haverstraw Motorsports
Haverstraw, NY

Heartland Motorcycle Co.
Omaha, NE

I-95 Cycles
Lumberton, NC

Ideal Ride
East Dundee, IL

Metro Motorsports
Glendale, AZ

Naults Honda
Manchester, NH

Naults Windham Honda
Windham, NH

New Ray's Cycle Co.
Covington, KY

Night Riders
Custom-N-Speed
Pelham, AL

Night Riders Chopper Shop
Atlanta, AL

Norfleet Motorsports
Richmond, VA

North Idaho Power Sports
Coeur D'Alene, ID

Phantom Motorcycles
Ft. Lauderdale, FL

Rich's Cycle Center
St. Louis, MO

Rio Yamaha, Inc.
Las Cruces, NM

River City
Honda/American IronHorse
Owensboro, KY

Rodney's Cycle House
Little Rock, AR

Rolling Thunder Cycles, Inc.
Louisville, KY

Scooter Shak East, Inc.
Fargo, ND

Southwest V-Twin
Grandville, MI

Staz American Motorcycles
Henderson, NV

Tucson Motorsports
Tucson, AZ

Victory BMW
Chandler, AZ

Village Motorcycles
Clemmons, NC

Waynes Motorcycle Center
Cranston, RI

Fort Worth, Texas
817.665.2000
www.americanironhorse.com

From the Mind of a Femme Fatale



By
Madusa

When WCW MAGAZINE asked me to write a monthly column, I was very excited. Then I realized this could be dangerous. Do I fabricate or tell the truth? The truth can sting, but the sting from the truth is far better than a lie. So I figured: I have the power of the keyboard to convey the views, opinions and ideas of a woman in sports entertainment. Now that is a concept.

I have many issues I will address in future columns. If there is a specific topic you would like me to cover, please e-mail me at the address below. You can e-mail any questions you have for me, and I will do my best to select a few each month and answer them in my column.

Let me first introduce myself to those who don't know me. I am sassy, a bit funny and very soft inside with a hard exterior—sort of a femme fatale. I am this way as a means of survival. I don't have a father, and my mother, well, bless her heart. I have no brothers or sis-

ters and always have been a loner. My hero is my grandmother. I owe my life and all its gratification to her. Her name is Violet and she is 78 years old. She rides a Harley-Davidson motorcycle and works her butt off to this day.

I wanted to let you know my background because it might help you understand my way of thinking—not that I'm trying to sway your opinion. Everyone will not agree with me, but that's OK. I always have been a believer that you should follow your instincts and heart, although sometimes my instincts get me in trouble and my heart aches.

Before I go further, I have to say that I probably wouldn't have a job with WCW if it wasn't for Kevin Nash. Kevin and I have a long history and I have the utmost respect for him.

I have been wrestling for 16 years and I still love what I do. Along the way I have lost the closeness of what family I have and I see very little of my best friends, MerryBeth and Annie. I have been divorced, and then grieved after my ex-husband died. I have lost all my savings, had my car repossessed, lost my house, almost had to file bankruptcy and cheated death in a horrible accident. Sometimes I have to ask what the hell I'm doing. It really has to be for the love of the game now. I've had more adversity that I could go on about, but I'm saving that for my autobiography.

I never have stopped pursuing my dreams. I've achieved goals that some thought I was downright crazy for striving for, especially considering where I came from. Sometimes it takes wonderful people like Kevin to believe in you so that you get the chance to continue chasing your dreams. Kevin, I thank you and love you as one of my close friends. ♦

Contact Madusa by e-mail at
madusa@turner.com.
Visit her website at madusa.com.

**Nash went
to bat for
Madusa in
WCW.**

GARRETT ELLWOOD/WCW

YOU TOO CAN BE KING OF THE RING!

TRACFONE® Prepaid Cellular gets YOU in on the action!
Anyone can get their hands on one at participating Eckerd,
BLOCKBUSTER® or your nearest TRACFONE retailer.
Slam the contract programs and start talking—nationwide.
Visit us at www.tracfone.com or call **1-800-867-7183**.

Pin down your own Nokia 918* TRACFONE.

Cellular
as low as
\$7.99
per month



TRACFONE has control at 200 mph. This season, check out the
TRACFONE/WCW NASCAR Busch Series Grand National Division
#81 Chevrolet Monte Carlo, driven by Blaise Alexander.



NOKIA
CONNECTING PEOPLE

NO

**CREDIT CHECKS
CONTRACTS
AGE LIMIT
PHONE BILLS**

YES

**PAY AS YOU GO
NATIONWIDE SERVICE
LOW PER MINUTE RATES
LONG DISTANCE INCLUDED**

TRACFONE®
NATIONWIDE PREPAID CELLULAR

**NOKIA
918**

\$49.99*

THEN GET A \$30 REBATE.

\$30 MAIL-IN REBATE OR \$40 PREPAID CELLULAR PHONE CARD

on the purchase of a TRACFONE Cellular Phone. To receive your \$30 Mail-In Rebate or \$40 Prepaid Phone Card:

Purchase and activate any TRACFONE Prepaid Cellular Phone between **September 1 and December 31, 2000**.

Please select one category: ☐ **\$30 Mail-In Rebate** ☐ **\$40 Cellular Phone Card**
(If no selection is made you will receive OUR BEST VALUE, the \$40 phone card.)

Mail your original dated cash register receipt, the UPC label off the
TRACFONE box along with this completed original form to:

TRACFONE REBATE OFFER, Dept. N, P.O. Box 8001, Walled Lake, MI 48391-8001

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP code _____

Telephone () _____

Phone Serial Number (ESN#) _____

To obtain the ESN# remove the battery from the cellular phone and locate the number on the back of the phone.

ADDITIONAL TERMS: 1) Allow 15-18 weeks for processing. 2) Offer limited to U.S.A. ONLY; except where prohibited, taxed or licensed. 3) Valid for new activations only. CUSTOMER MUST MAINTAIN CONTINUOUS ACTIVE SERVICE FOR 90 DAYS. 4) Limit one Rebate per phone. 5) Duplicate requests will not be acknowledged. 6) Not valid in conjunction with any other coupon, promotion or offer. 7) Not responsible for lost, stolen or illegible submissions. 8) Reproduction of this offer violates copyright statutes. 9) Photocopies of proof of purchase will not be accepted. 10) Only street or mail route address. 11) Void where prohibited. 12) Valid only at participating retailers. Must be postmarked by January 15, 2001.

Please visit www.tracfone.com to find a TRACFONE retailer near you.

TRACFONE is available at over 23,000 retailers nationwide, including participating

ECKERD®
Right there with you™



All services provided pursuant to Topp Telecom, Inc., Terms and Conditions of Service. Nokia 918 is priced at \$49.99 less \$30 mail-in rebate equals \$19.99. Mail-in rebate is a limited time offer and requires customer to maintain continuous active service for 90 days to be eligible for rebate. *Phone price and rebate offer may vary by store. TRACFONE® is a registered trademark of Topp Telecom, Inc.

DAVID ARQUETTE OLIVER PLATT SCOTT CAAN

READY TO RUMBLE™

**NOW AVAILABLE ON
PAY-PER-VIEW**

WARNER BROS. PRESENTS

IN ASSOCIATION WITH BEL-AIR ENTERTAINMENT AN OUTLAW PRODUCTION IN ASSOCIATION WITH TOLLIN/ROBBINS PRODUCTIONS
DAVID ARQUETTE OLIVER PLATT "READY TO RUMBLE" SCOTT CAAN BILL GULBERG ROSE MCGOWAN DIAMOND DALLAS PAGE
WITH JOE PANTOLIANO AND MARTIN LAGARD WORLD OF "WWE" CHARACTERS MUSIC BY GEORGE S. CLINTON
CO-PRODUCERS HERB GAINS SCOTT STRAUSS EDITED BY NED BASTILLE PRODUCTION DESIGNED BY JAYMES HINKLE
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY CLARK MATHIS EXECUTIVE PRODUCED BY STEVEN REUTHER MIKE TOLLIN
PRODUCED BY BOBBY NEWMYER JEFFREY SILVER WRITTEN BY STEVEN BRILL DIRECTED BY BRIAN ROBBINS



Soundtrack Album on 143 Records/Atlantic Records

Title used with permission of Buffer Partnership. A TIME WARNER COMPANY



www.readytorumble.net

www.warnervideo.com



ORDER A HIT MOVIE TONIGHT

Check your satellite or cable TV on-screen or print guide for listings.

Franchise & Torrie



Photo by
Garrett Ellwood

Jindrak & O'Hair



Photo by
Garrett Ellwood